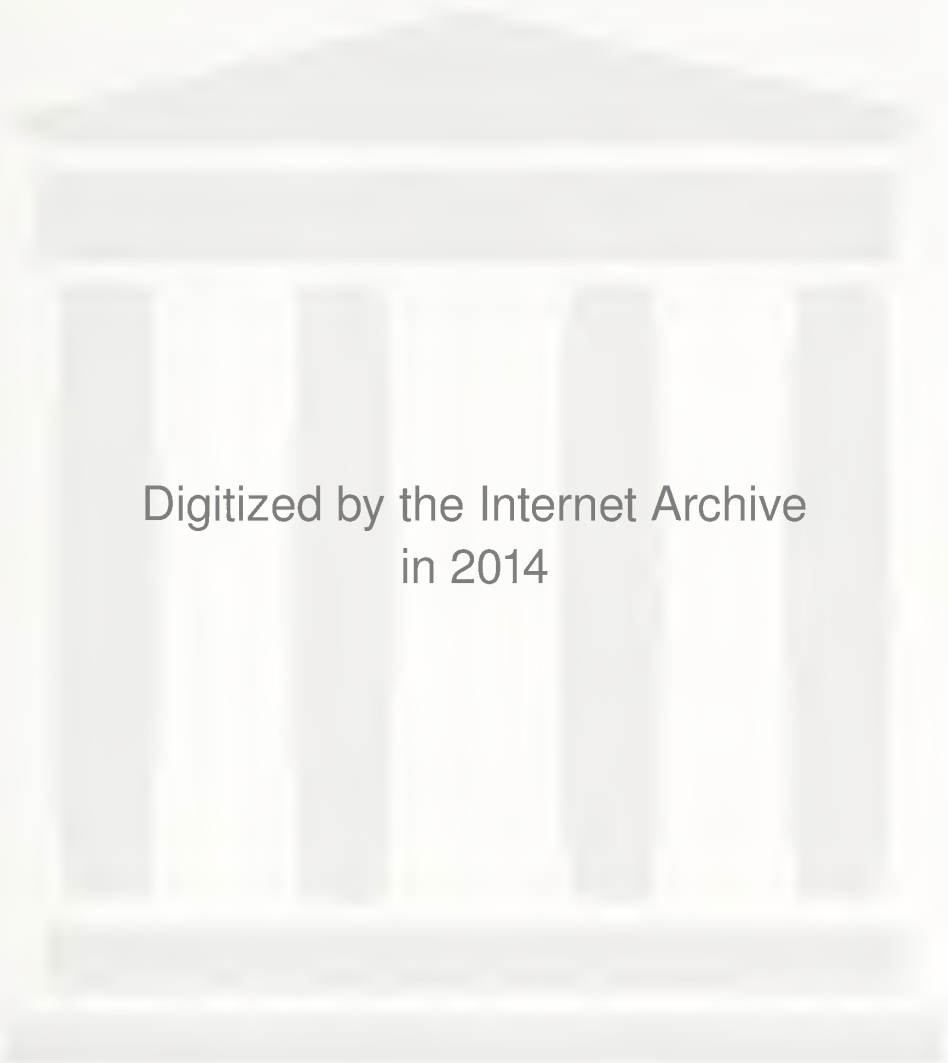
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JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

Eighteenth Annual Encampment

...of the...

Commandery-in-Chief,

Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

1899

HELD IN

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

SEPTEMBER 7, 8 and 9

FRANK L. SHEPARD

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,

1898-1899

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

EIGHTEENTH

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

OF THE

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,

SONS OF VETERANS

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1899.

BOSTON, MASS.:
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1900.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

THURSDAY — AFTERNOON SESSION.

DETROIT, MICH., Sept. 7, 1899.

The Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., convened in Masonic Hall, at 2 o'clock P.M., Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard in command.

The members having assembled, Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard called the brothers to order and introduced Mayor Maybury, who, in flowery and cordial words, welcomed the Sons of Veterans to the city of Detroit.

Appropriate responses were made by Commander-in-Chief Shepard and Past Commander-in-Chief William E. Bundy, after which Mayor Maybury retired.

ENCAMPMENT CALLED TO ORDER.

The Commander-in-Chief: The officers and members of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., will now come to order.

The Adjutant-General will call the roll of the officers of this Encampment.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS.

The Adjutant-General called the roll of officers and the following officers of the Commandery-in-Chief answered to their names:

Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard, Chicago, Ill.
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief George E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Z. C. Green, White, S.D.
Council-in-Chief: H. H. Hammer, J. E. Haycraft, J. D. Rowen.
Adjutant-General G. B. Abbott, Chicago, Ill.
Quartermaster-General Fred E. Bolton, Boston, Mass.
Judge Advocate-General James W. Noel, Indianapolis, Ind.
Surgeon-General F. H. B. McDowell, M D., Racine, Wis.
Chaplain-in-Chief Rev. A. J. Morris, South Frankfort, Mich.

Commander-in-Chief: I will make the following appointments for this session of our Encampment: Officer of the Day, Adjutant F. E. Munger, and Officer of the Guard, Captain Walter L. Raynes. The brothers will assume their duties at once.

The Inspector-General is in the city but has not yet presented himself at the Encampment. I will ask Past Inspector-General J. Frank Durston to act as Inspector-General, *pro tem.*

Inspector-General, you will take up the password and countersign; ascertain if all present are in possession of the same, and are entitled

to remain, and that the Camp and Picket Guards are at their respective stations. The Surgeon-General will assist you upon my left.

The Inspector-General: Commander, upon due inspection we find the Camp and Picket Guards at their stations, and all present in possession of the password and countersign and entitled to remain.

Whereupon, the Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., was opened in due form.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Commander-in-Chief: The first order of business is the announcement of the Committee on Credentials. The Chair will announce the appointment of the Committee on Credentials as follows:

Adjutant-General G. B. Abbott, *ex officio*, chairman of the committee.
Division Commander J. Howard Heine of Nebraska.
Division Commander George H. Bailey of New Jersey.
Division Commander Ralph Sheldon of New York.
Division Commander A. E. B. Stephens of Ohio.

The members of the committee will report to the chairman of the committee at once and proceed with their work. What is the pleasure of the Encampment while the Committee on Credentials is preparing its report?

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, I move you that the Encampment take recess for twenty minutes, in order to give the Committee on Credentials an opportunity to prepare a partial report.

Schulyer Tipton of Indiana: Commander, I second the motion.

Commander-in-Chief: It is moved and seconded that the Commandery-in-Chief take recess for twenty minutes in order to give the Committee on Credentials an opportunity to prepare a report on the credentials that have been submitted. If there is no objection that motion will be taken by consent. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and the Encampment will be at ease until called to order by the Chair.

4.15 o'clock P.M.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Commandery-in-Chief will come to order. Inspector-General, are all present entitled to remain?

The Inspector-General: Commander, I find all present entitled to remain.

The Commander-in-Chief: We will now hear the report of the Committee on Credentials.

The Adjutant-General, Chairman, *ex officio*, of the Committee on Credentials submitted and read the following report:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

To the Officers and Members of the Eighteenth Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.:

Commander: Your Committee on Credentials would beg leave to report as follows:

We find the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief all present and entitled to vote and membership in the Encampment.

We find the following past officers and constitutional life members entitled to seats and votes in the Encampment. (See Roll of Encampment.)

The committee also examined the credentials of the following named members as delegates and alternates, and reports that they are entitled to a seat and vote in the Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief as representatives of their respective Divisions. (Roll Call No. 1.)

W. S. Oberdorf of New York: Commander, I move that as the Adjutant-General reads the names of those the committee report accredited as delegates to the Encampment, those present answer to their names, that in this way the reading of the report of the committee will serve as the first roll call of this Encampment.

The motion was seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair thinks that is proper, and if there is no objection it will be taken as the sense of this Encampment. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and the Adjutant-General will proceed and record those answering to their names as present, and the reading of this part of the report will stand as the first roll call of this Encampment.

The Adjutant-General concluded the reading of the report.

(Roll Call No. 1.)

The Commander-in-Chief: That concludes the report of the Committee on Credentials, and also the first roll call of the Encampment. The chair will now entertain a motion to adopt the report of the committee and accord seats in this Encampment to those members whose credentials have been favorably reported upon by the committee.

James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move you that the report of the committee just read be received as a partial report of the Committee on Credentials and the delegates accorded seats in the Encampment, and the committee continued.

A. S. Moulthorp of Pennsylvania: Commander I second the motion.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

The Commander-in-Chief: The brothers whose credentials have been reported upon favorably by the committee will be accredited and seated as members of this Encampment, and the Committee on Credentials continued.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

In accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, I will announce the general committees as follows:

On Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

Judge Advocate-General James W. Noel of Indiana.
Division Commander Frederic E. Carpenter of Rhode Island.
Past Division Commander W. Scott Oberdorf of New York.
Past Division Commander William T. Church of Illinois.
Delegate-at-Large Henry G. Thomas of Maine.

On Rituals and Ceremonies.

Past Division Commander Newton J. McGuire of Indiana.
Inspector-General Forrest W. Briggs of Pennsylvania.
Division Commander Bernard Prack of Missouri.
Division Commander George S. Whitmore of Maryland.
Past Division Commander E. H. Archer of Ohio.

On Resolutions.

Past Division Commander William Y. Morgan of Kansas.
Major R. M. J. Reed of Pennsylvania.
Division Commander W A. Morris of South Dakota.
Division Commander Edson S. Bishop of Connecticut.
Division Commander A. G. Braband of Wisconsin.

On Officers' Reports, Etc.

Past Commander-in-Chief Joseph B. Maccabe of Massachusetts.
Past Commander-in-Chief William E. Bundy of Ohio.
Past Commander-in-Chief James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania.
Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling of Massachusetts.
Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief George E. Cogshall of Michigan.
Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Charles T. Orner of Illinois.

The Commander-in-Chief: And I announce the following Special Committees: —

Committee on Fraternal Greetings to L.A.S.

Division Commander George N. Howard of Massachusetts.
Rev. Otho Brandt of Pennsylvania.
Past Division Commander C. G. Marsh of Illinois.
Rev S. W. Macurdy of Pennsylvania.
Division Commander H. O. P. Cline of Indiana.

Press Committee.

Past Division Commander William G. Dustin of Illinois.
Delegate-at-Large H. V. Speelman of Ohio.

Committee on Fraternal Relations with the G.A.R. as Announced in General Order No. 4.

Past Commander-in-Chief James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania, *Chairman.*
Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling of Massachusetts.
Past Commander-in-Chief Louis M. Wagner of Pennsylvania.
Past Division Commander Theodore A. Barton of Rhode Island.
Hon. Webster Davis of Washington, D.C.

On Military College.

The following committee was appointed in accordance with the Resolution adopted by the Sixteenth Annual Encampment at Indianapolis, but failed to report at the succeeding Encampment; it is a committee appointed to report upon the advisability of establishing a military college. The committee appointed by Commander-in-Chief Darling, was as follows: —

Past Division Commander A. L. Sortor of Iowa.
Past Division Commander Manly Wren of Missouri.
Past Division Commander Herbert O. Bixby of Vermont.
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief George E. Cox of Connecticut.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DIVISIONS.

W. E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I move that the roll of Divisions be called for communications, and that all communications be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work.

Commander-in-Chief: A motion is not necessary to do that. The next order of business is the reception and reference of communications from Divisions.

The Adjutant-General will call the roll of Divisions.

The Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions.

When the Division of Maryland was called: —

F. T. F. Johnson of Maryland: Commander, I have two communications to present from the Division of Maryland.

Commander-in-Chief: The communications from the Division of Maryland will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work.

When the Division of Massachusetts was called: —

J. B. Maccabe of Massachusetts: Commander, the Division of Massachusetts desires to present two communications that are not in writing: —

First, the Division of Massachusetts respectfully petitions the Commandery-in-Chief for a uniform uniform to be worn by each and every member throughout the Order.

Second, the Division of Massachusetts respectfully petitions the Commandery-in-Chief that power be delegated to Division Commanders to proceed against a Camp, if need be; and that the Commander of said Division may, if he consider it proper, transfer a member of the Camp proceeded against to another Camp so that the member transferred may retain his standing in the Order, and the incorrigibles in the Camp be suspended with the Camp itself.

The Commander-in-Chief: The communications from the Division of Massachusetts will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work.

When the Division of New York was called: —

Ralph Sheldon of New York: Commander, the Division of New York will present a communication later on.

The Commander-in-Chief: The communication from the Division of New York will be presented direct to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, the Division of Ohio has a resolution which it desires to present but unfortunately we have not it with us.

The Commander-in-Chief: You may hand it in to the committee later.

When the Division of Pennsylvania was called: —

The Adjutant-General: Commander, I will state that I have received a number of communications from the Division of Pennsylvania, and they will be submitted to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CAMPS AND INDIVIDUALS.

The Commander-in-Chief: The next order of business is the reception and reference of communications from Camps and individuals. Without calling the roll, are there any members who desire to offer resolutions or communications either on their own behalf, or on behalf of their Camps?

C. G. Marsh of Illinois: Commander, I would like to have that order of business passed over for the present. I do not know that I want to present anything myself, but I would like to have the privilege of doing it later on.

The Commander-in-Chief: I presume the Encampment will accord you that privilege.

C. J. Post of Michigan: Commander, I have a communication from Battle Creek Camp. They petition that they be allowed to use the Three Degree Ritual. They have all the paraphernalia to use it, are very much charmed with it, and think it a great hardship that they are not permitted to do so.

The Commander-in-Chief: The communication will go to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

RECESS UNTIL 9 O'CLOCK A.M.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I move that the Encampment now take recess until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The motion was agreed to and the Encampment took recess until tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 8, 1899, at 9 o'clock A.M.

FRIDAY — MORNING SESSION.

FRIDAY, Sept. 8, 1899, 9 o'clock A.M.

The Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

The Commander-in-Chief: The first order of business this morning is the call of the roll. The Adjutant-General will call the roll.

The Adjutant-General called the roll of Encampment.

(Roll Call No. 2.)

Commander-in-Chief: Has the Committee on Credentials any further report to make?

The Adjutant-General: Commander, they have not just now.

The Commander-in-Chief: The next order of business is the reading of the reports of the officers of this Encampment. Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Cox will assume command of the Encampment.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: Brothers, we will now hear the report of the Commander-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief Shepard submitted and read the following report: —

REPORT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

To the Officers and Members of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

Brothers: In rendering to you an account of the interests entrusted to my care one year ago, in this final report, I can but touch upon a few of the matters of moment to our Order, looking to the other officers of the Commandery-in-Chief for a detailed statement of the work of the year. It was with a love for the Order and the closest friendship for its officers and members that I entered upon the discharge of the duties imposed by the obligation I assumed at our altar, and if I have fallen far short of desired results, I shall hope to be credited with a continuation of that love and an earnest effort in behalf of this splendid fraternal organization of patriotic manhood — an Order born of precious memories and charged with solemn duties.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

It is hoped that the brothers of this Encampment will not be over critical in passing upon the hospitality which is placed at our disposal. It is a fact that our coming here was more the result of our own desire than by the urgent solicitation of the citizens and Sons of Veterans of Detroit. Our organization being not particularly strong in Detroit, it seemed advisable that some assistance and advice should be given by the Commandery-in-Chief. The Adjutant-General, therefore, at my request, made two visits to the city of Detroit; one, the latter part of December and the other in July. He found the brothers here few in number, yet anxious to do all they could for our entertainment. Heretofore it has been the experience at National Encampments that too much entertainment interfered with the business of our sessions and I therefore recommended to the brothers that no effort be made for a parade, a camp-fire or a banquet. I suggested that the members of the Encampment would undoubtedly enjoy a boat-ride upon the river and that probably would occupy as much time from our regular work as the Encampment would be disposed to give. So, any seeming lack of entertainment should not be charged to the citizens and brothers of Detroit, but rather to the suggestions of the Adjutant-General and myself. I feel that I cannot in justice leave this subject without commending most highly the efforts of Adjutant-General Abbott and Brother Chas. H. Fisk, upon whose shoulders has rested practically the entire labor of preparing for our Encampment. Nor should I omit to add that the brothers of the Division of Michigan have universally tendered their services for any purpose to which I might assign them.

DEATH OF MAJOR DAVIS.

On the 21st day of May this year, Maj. A. P. Davis, whose presence has been familiar at the national meetings of our Order since its organization, died at his home in Pittsburgh, Pa. For the first time we miss his kindly presence among us and at the roll call he answers

"present" to the Supreme Commander of us all. Mention of his death was made in General Order No. 3 and Camps were directed to drape their charters and altars in mourning for thirty days. Major Davis left by his will a bequest of five hundred dollars to the Commandery-in-Chief, with the request that the said sum be used in such manner and form as will best commemorate his connection with the Order, with a due regard for the wishes and views of his widow as to the use of this bequest. Major Davis also bequeathed to the Commandery-in-Chief such of his personal effects as relate to or have a bearing upon his life as a soldier or sailor, a list of which is attached to the will.

The will of Major Davis above referred to is being contested in the Orphan's Court of Pittsburgh by his son, Herbert A. Davis, and as it will be some time before the matter is finally determined, I recommend that the care of the interests of the Commandery-in-Chief be left to the incoming administration.

SUPPLIES FOR THE ORDER.

By the death of Major Davis the contract entered into with him for the manufacture and furnishing of decorations to our Order terminated. It thereupon became necessary to arrange for the transfer of the matter of decorations to another. Appreciating that a profit must be made, and properly so, in the manufacture and sale of supplies for our Order, a proposition to place the whole question of the manufacture, purchase and distribution of supplies in the department of the Quartermaster-General only was entertained. Major Davis left a considerable stock of decorations and material on hand and we have been negotiating for the purchase, on a proper basis, of such of these as could be used by the Order, including the purchase of the dies for the manufacture of the badges. After considerable discussion with Mrs. Davis, the residuary legatee and executrix of the last will of Major Davis, a portion of the supplies were purchased at one-half the price which the Order heretofore paid for them, and in this purchase the Order receives, without extra charge, the dies and hubs for the manufacture of the badges. I believe the Quartermaster-General hereafter can, to the best advantage of our Order, purchase its necessary supplies in the open market, and I recommend that this Encampment pass a resolution placing the whole matter of supplies for our Order in the department and under the direction of the Quartermaster-General, and that such resolution provide that he may also, if found desirable by both parties, furnish supplies for the Ladies' Aid Society, heretofore also purchased from Major Davis.

NEW RITUAL.

In accordance with the action of the Seventeenth Annual Encampment, a new one-degree ritual, recommended by the committee reporting at that Encampment, was edited, published and distributed free to all Camps reporting in good standing for the December, 1898, quarter. This new ritual includes in its charges and lectures, those patriotic sentiments which naturally appeal to the sons of Union soldiers of our

great war, at the same time making the work in the Camp-room simple and consistent as well as dignified and rich in substance, and of such length as can be easily worked in one evening. Provision was also made for more elaborate work by a Camp in its muster ceremony, when desired.

This ritual met with the almost unanimous approval of the Divisions and Camps, so far as my observation and advices informed me, and it is, in my judgment, a proper and adequate ritual for our Order, and I believe and hope its merits will so commend it to this National body as to obviate the necessity of any change in this or the drafting of any other ritual for many years to come.

NEW EDITION OF COURT-MARTIAL BLANKS.

The Quartermaster-General having disposed of the supply of court-martial blanks on hand, it became necessary to have printed a new edition, and we availed ourselves of that opportunity of revising the court-martial blanks and instructions both in substance and form to conform to the present law of our Order and the best usage.

I am indebted to Past Commander William T. Church of Illinois for services rendered in the preparation of this new edition of our court-martial blanks.

NEW EDITION OF THE C., R. & R.

It also became necessary to publish a new edition of our Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and under the supervision of the Quartermaster-General a new edition was edited to include the changes made by the last several Encampments, and published.

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY COLLEGE.

The committee to investigate the advisability of establishing a military college as a memorial to the soldiers and members of the Grand Army of the Republic, announced in General Order No. 6, of Commander-in-Chief Darling, Dec. 18, 1897, failed to make its report at the following Encampment, held at Omaha last year, because of the absence in the war of Captains Sortor and Wren, both members and the former chairman of the committee. Since our last Encampment considerable work has been done by this committee, and I beg this Encampment to receive and consider its report.

DECORATION FOR SERVICE IN SPANISH WAR.

By the resolution of our last Encampment, the Commander-in-Chief was authorized to have prepared a medal of honor to be furnished by Divisions, through the Quartermaster-General's Department, to all members of the Order who served in the Spanish-American War. No data as to the number of medals required could be obtained, except through the sources adopted for the compilation of the "Roll of Honor," ordered also by the last Encampment. Efforts were made to secure a captured Spanish cannon for use in the manufacture of this medal, but the Secretary of War, while expressing his good wishes in the matter, informed us that an act of Congress was necessary for the

transfer of a cannon for our use. So far as possible the necessary information has now been obtained; a sample decoration has been prepared; and I recommend that this matter be placed in the hands of the Quartermaster-General and he be directed and authorized to proceed with the manufacture and distribution of the medal.

COURTS-MARTIAL AND DECISIONS.

There have been twenty-six decisions rendered during the year, fourteen of which were in courts-martial cases and the balance involving constitutional questions. An appeal has been taken from my decision sustaining the decision of Division Commander E. H. Archer of Ohio, suspending Camp 24 of that Division for non-payment of dues and failure to make reports. Reference is made to the papers in this matter, as well as the decisions in all other cases, which are attached hereto and made a part of this report.

RELATIONS WITH G.A.R.

We have experienced a continuation of the close fraternal relations existing between the Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Daughters of Veterans and the Ladies of the G.A.R. and our own Order, and felt a closer drawing together of these societies with ours, whose principles and objects and common interests make them all akin.

A Committee on Fraternal Relations was appointed to attend the annual meeting of the Grand Army and the other societies meeting at Philadelphia this week and convey the greetings of our Order, which committee will make its report at this Encampment.

LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

Under the splendid administrations of the Department and National Officers of the Ladies' Aid Society most excellent work has been done by that organization in carrying on the patriotic and charitable work which it contemplates, and also in assisting and encouraging many Camps of Sons of Veterans, where the subordinate bodies of the two organizations are located together. I am under obligations to the Ladies' Aid Society for the continuous courtesy and assistance received from its officers and members.

DIVISION OF WEST VIRGINIA.

Upon assuming command I found that the *per capita* tax of the Division of West Virginia for the June, 1898, quarter had not been paid. Efforts were made from time to time to secure the payment of this and the *per capita* tax for the subsequent September and December quarters. A. R. Jones had been elected Division Commander and had established headquarters at Elkins, W. Va. Further than taking his oath of office and assuming command of his Division nothing seems to have been done by Commander Jones. Not only did he fail to forward his reports to the Adjutant-General and pay the required *per capita* for the three quarters mentioned, but he totally neglected the Camps and membership under his charge. His resignation as Division Commander was tendered

and accepted on Feb. 24, 1899. It was impossible to call a meeting of the Division Council on account of the distance to be travelled by each of them and the expense of such meeting. Blanks were submitted to each of the members of the Division Council for the purpose of electing a successor to Commander Jones. The Council unanimously elected Past Commander R. F. Adams for the unexpired term. Member of the Council-in-Chief H. H. Hammer was appointed Assistant Inspector-General for the Division of West Virginia, and directed to proceed to Elkins, W. Va., and inspect and audit the accounts of Brother Jones, secure the Division property and forward the same to Commander Adams. For the manner in which Brother Hammer discharged this duty, and the loyalty and energy with which Commander Adams assumed charge of the affairs of this Division, I am deeply indebted and grateful to both.

FRATERNAL PAPERS.

We have been indebted during the past year for material assistance rendered by the publication of several fraternal papers, among which may be mentioned, *The Michigan Messenger*, *The Sunflower Picket*, *The Recruit*, *The Illinois Banner*, *The Grand Army Journal* and *The National Tribune*. Next to the editing of a paper, its usefulness must be measured by the number of individual members who receive and read it. Through the scheme adopted by Past Commander Wm. G. Dustin, editor and publisher of the *Illinois Banner*, that paper is mailed to and received by every member of the Illinois Division as well as many outside of the Division. While it might not be practical for the Commandery-in-Chief to adopt the plan followed, nevertheless, it is recommended to the consideration of the several Divisions as a means of reaching every member of the Order with a fraternal paper.

ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP.

I have always been a firm adherent to and believer in our present form of organization, including the Camp, Division and Commandery-in-Chief. I have observed the excellent and continuous work done by the subordinate Camps in carrying out the idea of charity, not only to the veteran soldier and his family, but also to and among the brothers of our Order. The Camps are more and more assuming and discharging the duties of Memorial Day, as contemplated by our laws, and in many cases during the past year the local Camps in their respective localities took entire charge and direction of the work of Memorial Day, and by their efforts discharged in the highest degree this sacred duty, and advanced the Order in the estimation of the public generally and received commendation from the Grand Army expressive of their gratitude. Many Camps are uniformed and drilled and maintain military organizations creditable to them and to the Order. In other Camps the social and patriotic features are most prominent.

We have long observed, however, that there is a large number of eligible sons of Union soldiers whom we have never been able to bring into membership. Various causes have contributed to the failure on

our part to enlist the services of these desirable recruits. In many towns, in which may be found one or more of their best citizens who are eligible to membership, no Camp exists. In other places Camps have been unable to secure the older eligible Sons of Veterans, because, perhaps, they have passed the years of life when drills or uniforms or the work of the local Camps had any attraction for them. This subject is not a new one and various suggestions have been made to this body from year to year for its solution. Some have advocated the repeal of our present system of organization, or the elimination of the ritualistic work entirely, or doing away with both. Others suggested the plans of the Sons of the American Revolution or the Loyal Legion, and others for a single Camp for each State. A great deal of time and work has been devoted to this during the past year, and we offer for the consideration of this Encampment our views upon this subject.

We believe that provision can be made in our laws for the organization of a Camp in each Division that will conform to the present plan of organization, and with only some modification as to the details of the work, which will attract to membership a great body of eligible sons of veterans who are not now members of the Order. At Indianapolis a resolution was adopted making it optional with Camps to muster recruits by simply giving the obligation and secret work if it was deemed best. By giving greater latitude to the Camp as to its time and place of meetings and the number of meetings to be held will tend greatly, in my opinion, to solve the difficulty. A Camp then can be organized in each Division, if desired, to include in its membership recruits from every point in the Division, imposing upon them none of the details of Camp work now assumed, at least by a recruit at his muster. Leave it optional with a Camp as to its time and place of meeting, and the number of meetings it shall hold. Such a membership drawn from the Division at large will attract many older and influential members and add strength to our Order and contribute to the work it contemplates. Provision should also be made for associate membership in this Camp by brothers of the Order who now belong to their local Camps, and who, if they sever such membership by transfer, injure their local Camps, but by retaining such active membership with the privilege of becoming an associate member of the State Camp would enable them to help carry on the work of the local Camp and at the same time affiliate with the State Camp composed of membership at large; compelling such associate members to pay dues in both Camps, and basing the representation of such Camp in the Division Encampments upon its active membership.

I am more than ever before convinced of the usefulness and grandeur and perpetuity of the organization of the Sons of Veterans, believing that not members alone, but that character and strength of membership, which we now have and to which every year we are adding, weigh most in carrying on the work of our Order, and make most for the advancement of those principles which it teaches. Satisfied more than ever that the Order of Sons of Veterans link the splendid achievements of the past with the eventful days in which we live, to perpetuate them in a glorious future for our country.

OFFICERS AND STAFF.

The officers and staff brought to their respective positions experience in the work of the Order, ability to perform their duties and a deep desire to so labor as to best advance its interests. I cannot close this report without making the just acknowledgment that to them is due whatever of good has been accomplished in this year's work, and to the Division officers and brothers everywhere I am indebted for the greatest kindness and assistance.

To Col. William G. Dustin and Surgeon-General McDowell, and others, I am obligated for special work and many courtesies.

The Adjutant-General and the Quartermaster-General have from the nature of their offices the most arduous and exacting work to perform, and we all know that Adjutant-General Abbott and Quartermaster General Bolton brought special qualifications and industry to the positions which they assumed, and in addition to their duties well performed, they have made my official year most happy and pleasant; and I may add that so long as these important positions are filled by such worthy brothers, the interests of the Order will always be advanced and safeguarded.

As there is no day without its nearness of evening shades, so with all the pleasant memories of this year's work, with the close friendships formed by daily contact, comes the regret of the severance of official relations. But I hand back to you, my brothers, this great trust placed with me, knowing that there is a common ground in the work for the Order where we can always meet, and seeing with profound faith a glorious future for the Sons of Veterans in carrying out the splendid mission for which it was established.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

DECISIONS AND OPINIONS.

Decision I.

CHICAGO, Oct. 20, 1898.

Col. LEONARD C. COUCH,
Commander Mass. Division, S. V., U.S.A.,
Taunton, Mass.,

Dear Colonel Couch: I return to you herewith record of the court-martial proceedings in the case of Bro. P. O. Hardy of Commander George F. F. Wilde Camp, No. 117, your Division, together with Opinion No. 2 of the Judge Advocate-General attached thereto. I concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and approve the findings of the Court.

The sentence imposed by the Court should, in my judgment, be modified and reduced, as the evidence introduced on behalf of the prosecution does not justify so severe a sentence as that fixed by the Court, in view of the fact that the testimony given by the witnesses was very largely in the nature of an expression by them of their own conclusions, instead of being a full statement of the bare facts and nothing more on the part of the witnesses, then leaving the conclusions to be drawn by the Court; and, further, that the competent testimony introduced is scant in support of the charges and specifications against the accused.

The sentence is therefore modified and reduced, to the suspension of Bro. P. O. Hardy from membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, and from all rights and privileges in the Order, for the period of one year, commencing on the 20th day of October, 1898.

You are charged with the duty of carrying out the sentence in this case in conformity with the above.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion II.

In the matter of the court-martial of Parsons O. Hardy of Camp 177, Division of Massachusetts:

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Oct. 17, 1898.

TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

The complete copy of the record now presented shows that notice was duly served and that he was presented with a copy of the charges. The record is therefore without defect in that particular.

It is the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General that the findings of guilty by the Court on the third specification of the first charge and on the first specification of the second charge are not sustained by the evidence; but it is apparent that there is support in the evidence for the findings on the first specification of the first charge. The Court found the facts and while the evidence is somewhat flimsy we do not feel that the findings should be disturbed.

It is recommended that the proceedings be approved, and the sentence affirmed.

Respectfully,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision No. II.— (J. A.-Gen. Op. III.)

CHICAGO, Oct. 28, 1898.

COL. WM. T. CHURCH,
Commander Illinois Division, S. V., U.S.A.,
The Tacoma, City.

Dear Colonel Church: The record in the court-martial proceedings against Charles D Henry, of Camp No. 28, Division of Illinois, together with Opinion No. III., of the Judge Advocate-General, attached thereto, is returned to you herewith.

I concur in the opinion and recommendations of the Judge Advocate-General, and hereby approve the finding of the Court and the sentence imposed.

You are hereby directed to carry the sentence into effect at once.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT.
Adjutant-General.

Opinion III.

In the matter of the court-martial of Charles D. Henry of Camp No. 28, Division of Illinois, S.V., U.S.A.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Oct. 26, 1898.

The record in the above entitled case shows that the proceedings were in proper form and according to law and that the finding of the Court is sustained by the evidence. I, therefore, recommend that the Commander-in-Chief affirm the finding and approve the sentence.

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision III.—(J. A.-Gen. Op. IV.)

CHICAGO, Oct. 28, 1898.

Col. CHARLES L. PIERCE,
Commander California Division, S.V., U.S.A.,
13 Pine St., San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Colonel Pierce: I hand you herewith Opinion No. IV. of the Judge Advocate-General in answer to the questions raised in your communication of August 15.

I concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General and adopt the same as my decision upon the questions raised.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion IV.

In the matter of request of Charles L. Pierce, Commander, Division of California, for opinion.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Oct. 26, 1898.

It is plainly the law of the Order that one dropped because of arrearages may be reinstated by the Camp which dropped him upon the payment of one year's back dues. It has been held repeatedly that when he presents himself for muster or reinstatement to another Camp he must pay the one year's back dues to the Camp which dropped him, and the muster fee of the Camp which reinstates him. But the law does not intend that, when reinstated by his own Camp, he should pay more than the one year's arrearages. So that upon making his application therefor and applying the one year's arrearage the member may be reinstated, after being balloted on in the same manner as an original applicant. The Camp cannot demand more of him than the one year's dues and there can be no conditional reinstatement.

The law of the Order requires that the muster fee, or, in case of dropped member, the one year's dues be paid before the member is balloted on for muster or reinstatement. If the member has been reinstated without paying in advance, the officers have violated the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and may be court-martialed. In the absence of any showing to the contrary it is presumed that the officers complied with the law and that the members paid the one year's back dues before reinstatement. The quartermaster is liable on his bond to the Camp for the amount, whether paid to him or not, if he reported the amount paid, and such a report was necessary before reinstatement.

But even though the officers were derelict and permitted the record to show his reinstatement as a member, he is *particeps criminis* and cannot profit by a wrong in which he participated. Common honesty would not permit him to thus avoid his own obligation and if, as a matter of fact, the back dues are

not paid as required by the regulations of the Order, he is in arrears with the Camp which reinstated him and cannot demand a transfer from the Camp until he has paid all his debts to the Camp and no charges exist against him.

It is our opinion that in the case presented the member is not entitled to a transfer until he has paid the one year's arrearages, but that the Camp cannot require more of him. He is entitled to a transfer when he has complied with the law and then only.

The general questions asked are answered by the constitution itself. No Camp has a right to carry members on its rolls who are in arrearage more than one year. Irregularities committed by Camps, when clearly proven, and entirely inconsistent with the law of the Order, may be cause for suspension of the Camp or a revocation of its charter by the proper authorities.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision IV.

CHICAGO, Oct. 29, 1898.

Col. JOHN REDMOND,
Commander Kansas Division, S. V., U.S.A.
Wichita, Kan.

Dear Colonel Redmond: Your communication of October 25, asking "if it has ever been decided that Captains are not entitled to past rank, unless they have received commissions," is duly received, and in reply I beg to advise you that so far as I am aware, it has never been so decided.

The Constitution, Chapter III., Article II., Section 1 and paragraph 3, provides for membership in a Division Encampment of Past Captains who have served for a full term, or having been elected to fill a vacancy, shall have served to the end of the term, so long as they remain in good standing in their Camp. This, in my opinion, controls, and the fact that the Division Commander may not have provided a Camp Captain with a commission after he has been elected by his Camp to that office, cannot take from him his right to the rank of Past Captain, after he has fully complied with the foregoing.

It is the duty of the Division Commander to commission all such officers who have been duly elected and installed, and any neglect to do so cannot deprive the Captain of the honors of his office.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision V.

CHICAGO, Oct. 31, 1898.

Col. E. W. ESTES,
Commander New York Division, S. V., U.S.A.
Tweedle Building, Albany, N.Y.

Dear Colonel Estes: Your communication of the 29th inst., in which you state that a brother of one of the Camps of your Division was in the Camp report for the quarter ending June 30, reported suspended by his Camp for non-payment of dues; that the brother suspended was a delegate to and had a seat in your Division Encampment on June 30; that early in July the brother remitted to the Quartermaster-Sergeant of his Camp $10.00, and received the Quartermaster-Sergeant's receipt, dated July 20, 1886, showing payment for dues to July 1, 1898, accompanied by letter from the Quartermaster, stating that "at the meeting of the 20th, the Camp decided to accept the money and reinstate you as a member . . . . I enclose you receipt for $7.25 for dues;" that the quarterly report for the quarter ending November 30 from the Camp

shows that the said brother has been dropped, and asking for my decision upon the following points: —

1st. Did the brother have any right to sit in the Division Encampment, as a delegate?

2d. Is the Captain negligent in his duty to permit a member of his Camp in the Division Encampment, who is nine months in arrears for dues?

3d. A brother having been suspended and having remitted more money than is neeessary to pay his dues, and the Camp accepts the same, is it mandatory upon the Captain of that Camp to order the brother to be again placed in good standing in the Camp?

4th. Funds having been received by the Camp, what right has the Captain of that Camp in his succeeding report to ignore the acceptance of funds, and then drop the brother?

5th. If a member is suspended and payment of the dues is offered the Camp by the suspended member, must the Camp accept it?

In answer to the foregoing questions, based upon the statement of facts submitted in your communication, I beg to advise you that in my judgment, the first question is answered in the negative, by Section III. of Article IV., Chapter V. of the Constitution, Rules and Requirements, which provides that any member of a Camp who is six months in arrears in the payment of his dues shall be prohibited from voting and not permitted in the Camp room; is ineligible to office; shall be reported suspended, and shall not be counted in the representation of the Camp at the Division Encampment.

The answer to your second question is also contained in the same section, which provides: "he shall be reported suspended in the quarterly report to Division Headquarters until such dues are paid." And it is clearly the duty of the Captain to have him so reported and being so reported, he is disqualified to sit as a delegate in a Division Encampment

In answer to your third question I have to advise you, that a suspended member may be reinstated by payment of back dues; and in this case the brother paid all back dues, and the same having been received by the Camp and the Quartermaster-Sergeant having given the brother a receipt showing the same, the brother is reinstated by operation of law, and it is the duty of the Captain and his Quartermaster-Sergeant to show such reinstatement

Section III., Article IV., Chapter V., Constitution, Rules and Regulations.
Commander-in-Chief Bundy, Decision LXIV., 14th, p. 47, Gould's Digest, p. 53.
Judge Advocate-General Brown, Op. LXIII., Blue Book, p. 66, Gould's Digest, p. 54.

In answer to your fourth question, I have to say that in view of the foregoing, the Captain had no right to report the brother as dropped for non-payment of dues.

In answer to your fifth question it is my judgment that the Camp must accept money from a member who is suspended for the non-payment of dues tendered by the member for the payment of his dues.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision VI.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 9, 1898.

J. E. LOUGHMILLER,
Adjutant Oregon Division, S. V., U.S.A.
Silverton, Ore.

Dear Brother and Adjutant: Your communieation of the 28th ult. was duly received, in which you state that a brother was mustered into Camp 15, of your Division, and afterwards sent by his Camp as a delegate to the Division Encampment, without having first paid his muster fee of $1 50, but afterward paying one quarter's dues to the Camp for which he holds a proper reeeipt, the Camp afterwards by vote declaring him not a member of the Camp, and your request for my opinion as to whether or not he is a member.

In reply I beg to advise you that, in my judgment, the brother became a member of Camp 15 after having been mustered in in due form, that the muster fee of $1.50 is a proper charge against him together with his dues,— but that the brother cannot be suspended by the Camp until he is in arrears for his dues or muster fee, or a portion thereof, for a period of six months, and that he cannot be dropped by the Camp until he is in arrears for the period of one year.

It is certainly a bad practice and in violation of the requirements of our constitution for a Camp to muster a member until he has paid the required muster fee, but in this case the brother having been informed by the Captain that the muster fee could be paid at a later date, the Camp having received the brother into full membership, he cannot now be dropped except in the manner above set forth.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision VII.—(J. A.-Gen., Op. V.)

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 27, 1898.

Col. WM. T. CHURCH,
Commanding Division of Illinois, S. V., U.S.A.,
Tacoma Bldg., City.

Dear Colonel Church: I return to you herewith record in the court-martial proceedings against Carlisle R. Clarke of Camp No. 26, Division of Illinois, with the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General attached thereto.

I concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General and the recommendations of yourself and the Judge Advocate-General, and affirm the findings of the court and approve the sentence imposed.

You are hereby directed to carry the sentence into effect at once.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion V.

In the matter of the court-martial of Carlisle R. Clark of Camp No. 26, Division of Illinois, S.V., U.S.A.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 22, 1898.

The record in the above entitled cause shows that the Court was properly organized, that the accused had notice and that all the proceedings were in proper form and according to the law and that the finding of the Court is sustained by the evidence. I, therefore, recommend that the Commander-in-Chief affirm the finding and approve the sentence.

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision VIII.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan 12, 1899.

Col. JOHN REDMOND,
Commander Kansas Division, S. V., U.S.A.

"Is a brother who is reported as 'suspended' on quarterly reports subject to trial by court-martial for offenses committed before being suspended?"

I am of the opinion and do so decide, that the brother is still within the jurisdiction of the Order of Sons of Veterans, and subject to its discipline and to court-martial proceedings, and liable to punishment thereunder.

To hold otherwise would permit a brother, after committing some offense, to allow himself to become suspended for the non-payment of dues; and in that manner avoid being brought to account for his acts and subjected to the proper punishment if guilty. It would also tend to impair the discipline of the Order, to defeat the ends of justice, and would allow the brother, by his own act, to place the Order at a disadvantage by depriving it of the authority to act.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant General.

Decision IX.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 25, 1899.

TO PAST CAPT. E. F. J. GOLDSMITH,
Of Pier Camp No. 35, S. V., U.S.A.

Through the Commander of the Division of Wisconsin.

In re the decision of Commander W. J. Patton of the Division of Wisconsin, rendered on the 19th of May, 1897, to the effect that all representatives of Pier Camp, No. 35, of said Division, were not entitled to a seat in the fourteenth annual Encampment of said Division, by reason of a failure to pay the sum of $3.20, claimed to be due the Division of Wisconsin for fees of the inspector who inspected the various Camps in said Division for the past year, said amount being charged *per capita* on all members in good standing at the time of inspection and being based on the total expense for the full inspection. Passing over the questionable right of an individual member of a Camp to appeal from the decision of a Division Commander in a matter which pertains to the Camp as a whole, in its relation to the Division headquarters, when the Camp itself, by its proper officers and over the seal of the Camp, has taken no action in such matters, I am of the opinion and do so decide, that the decision of Commander Patton should stand.

The appeal does not state that the Past Commanders in good standing of Camp 35, of the Division of Wisconsin, were debarred from participating in the fourteenth annual Encampment of said Division, but that the representatives were thus debarred.

The matter of the inspection of Camps is clearly established in Section 1, Article V., of the general Rules and Regulations of the Order, and that the expenses of the same should be paid by the Camps inspected is clearly defined in Section 11 of the "Instructions to Inspecting Officers" found in the rules established by Inspector-General Abbott in 1887, authorized by Commander-in-Chief Payne, and accepted and approved by the following National Encampment at Des Moines, Iowa, and which has been continued as an established rule of the Order ever since that date. Said section provides that "Inspecting officers are not entitled to compensation for services ———— but each Camp is required to meet the actual expenses of its inspection, unless otherwise ordered by the Colonel commanding.

In evidence of the power of the Division to regulate and provide for the manner of meeting the expense for the inspection of Camps, many Divisions have adopted by-laws, and others have made provisions by resolution, that said expenses should be met by a *pro rata* charge upon each Camp inspected in proportion to the number of members of said Camp to the entire expenses of the inspection. The authority of Divisions to so do has been approved and has not been construed as contrary to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Order. It thus being in the power of the Division to assess the Camps *pro rata* for the cost of the inspections, this charge becomes a legitimate tax levied by the Division, and Camps failing to comply therewith should be denied representation in the Division Encampment, in accordance with Section 2, Article IV., of the general Rules and Regulations of the Order, which provides that "Any Camp in arrears for reports or dues shall not be allowed any representation in the Division Encampment to which it is attached until the same are paid."

The question raised by the appellant that the disbursements of said inspection were not submitted to any Encampment of the Wisconsin Division for action or auditing is entirely foreign to the ruling of Commander Patton and has no bearing upon the case, these accounts being in the hands of the Division Council, to whom the Encampment usually delegates the power of auditing the accounts of Division officers. If the Division officers have failed to make an accounting of funds coming into their hands from the various Camps in a proper and legitimate manner, they are subject to discipline, and such a question is foreign to the case under consideration.

The further question raised by the appellant that no method of payment of the expenses of such inspection was provided for by the Division Encampment in adopting a resolution that the cost of inspections should be made by *pro rata* taxation is not material to the case for the reason that the provision for the inspection of Camps is established in Section I, Article V., Constitution, Rules and Regulations, above referred to, and the cost of the same made operative by virtue of the ruling of the Inspector General, all of which had previously been legally established by action of the Commandery-in-Chief, and no specific action by the Division itself was necessary.

The appellant makes no charge that the amount assessed in proportion to its membership was excessive or that the inspection was not made in accordance with the laws of the Order; and while the resolution adopted by the Division Encampment pertaining to the manner in which the inspections should be made did not specifically state the manner in which the expense of the inspection should be paid, it is in keeping with the rule established by the Inspector-General that the actual expense of the inspection should be paid by the Camp, unless otherwise ordered by the colonel commanding. Ample authority is thereby vested in the colonel for making the *pro rata* charge upon each Camp for the cost of inspection. The decision of Commander Patton becomes the act of the Division by virtue of having been sustained by the Division Encampment over the appeal of the appellant in this case.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Decision X.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 30, 1899.

Col. A. S. MOULTHROP,
Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V. U.S.A.

In the matter of the court-martial proceedings against Harry T. Wheeler, of Lieut. John T. Greble Camp No. 10, Division of Pennsylvania, S.V. U.S.A., on the charge of "Conduct unbecoming a member in his relations to the Order," in which the brother was tried, found guilty and sentenced to be "Dishonorably discharged and dismissed from the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.," the approval of which sentence is recommended by the Division Commander, I find that proper service was had upon the accused, the trial was regular in form, the evidence supports the specification that the said brother, Harry T. Wheeler, collected money belonging to the Camp and has failed and refused to turn the same over to the Camp, and I affirm the finding of the court and the sentence imposed, and approve the recommendation of the Division Commander and direct Division Commander A. S. Moulthrop to carry the same into effect.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Decision XI.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 30, 1899.

Col. A. S. MOULTHROP,
Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U.S.A.

In the matter of court-martial proceedings against Reuben F. Schwartz of Thomas J. Stewart Camp, No. 72, Division of Pennsylvania, S. of V., U.S.A.,

on the charges of, first "Violation of the obligation taken at the time of assuming the office of Quartermaster Sergeant," second, "Misappropriating the funds of the Camp intrusted to his care," I find that proper service was had upon the said Reuben F. Schwartz that the proceedings in said court-martial were regular in form, that the evidence introduced appears to support the charges made and the sentence imposed, which finding and sentence of the Court are hereby affirmed, and the recommendation of the Division Commander is approved and in accordance therewith Brother Reuben F. Schwartz, of Camp 72, Division of Pennsylvania, is dishonorably discharged and dismissed from the Order of Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., and Division Commander A. S. Moulthrop is hereby directed to carry the same into effect.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XII.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 30, 1899.

Col. E. H. ARCHER,
Commander Ohio Division, S. V., U.S.A.

In the matter of the court-martial proceedings against Wm. A. Teetor, of Wm. Meade Camp, No. 46, Division of Ohio, S.V., U.S.A., who was tried on the charge of "Committing a scandalous crime against the laws of the land," found guilty, and sentenced to "be dishonorably discharged and dismissed from the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.," I find that proper service was had upon the accused, that the proceedings of the court-martial were in regular form, and the sentence justified by the evidence presented. I accordingly approve the same and direct Col. E. H. Archer, Commanding the Ohio Division, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., to carry the same into effect.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XIII.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 30, 1899.

Col. W. W. BISBY,
Commander Iowa Division, S. V., U.S.A.

In the matter of the reinstatement of Waterloo Camp, No. 19, Division of Iowa, and the members formerly upon its roll, including one Past Division Commander and several Past Captains, which Camp was dropped in 1895, the Camp not having reported nor paid any per capita tax since 1894, I am of the opinion and do so decide, that it is impossible to reinstate this Camp under our Constitution, Rules and Regulations; that the brothers mentioned have lost their past rank by allowing themselves to be dropped from the Order with the Camp to which they belonged, and it is beyond the power of a Division Commander or the Commander-in-Chief to reinstate them in the Order and to restore to them their past rank. They may become members of the Order again by complying with the Constitution in that regard, or they might have retained their rank by keeping up their membership, in keeping up their Camp or by taking a transfer at the time the Camp was dropped and placing it in some other Camp.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XIV.

In re court-martial of John A. Andrew Camp, No. 13, Division of Massachusetts, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

CHICAGO, ILL., Feb. 1, 1899.

Col. L. C. COUCH,
Commanding Division of Massachusetts, S. V., U.S.A.

It appears from the record in this case that John A. Andrew Camp, No. 13, Division of Massachusetts, was suspended by the Division Commander on May 26, 1898, by his Special Order No. 17; that charges were preferred against the Camp by order of the Division Commander, and a court-martial appointed for the trial of the Camp by his Special Order No. 47, dated Nov. 8, 1898.

The first charge preferred was "conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline," and the first specification thereunder alleged that the "said brothers and others composing said John A. Andrew Camp, No. 13, Division of Massachusetts, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., did as an organized and chartered Camp of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., order, authorize, sanction, sustain, publish and promulgate the following: to wit," and including in such specification the circular alleged to have been authorized and published by the said Camp, and alleging that such action was prejudicial to good order and discipline and direspectful to the Division Commander. There is a second specification under charge one, which is followed by charge two, with one specification, but as the court rendered a finding of "not guilty" as to the said second specification of the first charge and to first specification of the second charge, they will not be considered in this decision.

Service was had upon the accused Camp by serving four members of the Camp, who each entered his individual appearance.

Four members of the Court responded to the roll-call, and objection to proceeding with less than the full number of the Court having been waived by the counsel for Camp 13, the Court was sworn and proceeded with the trial. Objection was made by the counsel for Camp 13 to the time of day at which the Court convened and heard the case, it appearing from the record that the session was called to order at 8 35 o'clock P.M. on the first day, and at 8 o'clock P.M. on the second day, which objection was overruled by the Court. Counsel for the defendant Camp also objected to the trial by the Court appointed in this case on the ground that the charges had been preferred by the Division Commander, who appointed the Court, and who, if a finding of guilty was rendered, must review the case. Counsel further objected to the proceedings for want of jurisdiction on the part of the Court to try for any offense the defendant Camp, as a Camp.

The Court heard the evidence introduced and the arguments of the counsel, all of which appears in the record, and after consideration declared its findings as follows: —

"The Court finds John A. Andrew Camp No. 13, Sons of Veterans, guilty of the first specifications of the first charge, and sentences the said Camp to continue suspended until the first day of February, 1899."

"On the second specification of the first charge the finding is not guilty."

"On the first specification of the second charge the finding is not guilty."

After an examination of the record in this case, I am of the opinion that the trial of this case by four members of the Court, any objection thereto having been specifically waived by counsel for the defense, was not inconsistent with our practice.

Judge Advocate-General Russell, Op. XXXV., 13th, p. 103.

As to the objections made by the written protest of the four members of the accused Camp who were personally served in this case, and the objection of the counsel for the defendant Camp, that no court-martial shall convene earlier than 8 o'clock in the morning nor later than 3 o'clock in the afternoon, I am of the opinion that the Court properly overruled; that the policy of our Order requires as much for the benefit of the accused as for the prosecution in a court-martial proceeding, that the limitation imposed by the rules of the

Federal Courts relating to court-martial be not strictly applied to proceedings of courts-martial in our Order.

Judge Advocate-General Weeks, Op. XXIX., 11th, p. 42.

I am of the opinion that the third objection was properly overruled; that the Court was appointed and convened in accordance with the procedure of our Order.

The prosecution introduced in evidence a Circular Letter dated: "Headquarters of John A. Andrew Camp No. 13 Sons of Veterans, Stoughton, Mass., May 23, 1898," on which the names of C. D. Folsom, Geo. A. Nevins and E. M. Fullerton were printed as a committee for Camp 13, Sons of Veterans. The tone and substance of this circular is contrary to the fraternal feeling that should exist between the members of the Order, and especially objectionable as being directed against the Division Commander. It was disrespectful in the extreme and prejudicial to good order and discipline, and a reprehensible act on the part of the person or persons who were responsible for its publication, and calls for severe censure as to those who are presumed, by being members of the Order of Sons of Veterans, to have a finer sense of courtesy and of right and wrong, and a higher degree of loyalty to their superior officers. There is a proper remedy to correct any illegal act on the part of a superior officer and to compel such an officer to do his duty, but the publication of a Circular Letter, such as the one introduced in evidence in this case, was not the course to pursue and was in violation of the terms and spirit of our Constitution, Rules and Regulations and obligations. The evidence, however, fails to show, except by the admission of counsel for the accused, that the circular in question was adopted and published by the Camp, or that any committee or person was authorized to have it done for the Camp.

In reference to the objection of the counsel for Camp 13 that this Court had no jurisdiction to try under court-martial proceedings "John A. Andrew Camp No. 13," that the proceedings should have been brought against the individual members, naming them, and bringing them in by proper service, and not against the Camp as a whole and in the name of the Camp, which objection was overruled by the Court,— I am of the opinion that the Division Commander had no authority to issue his Special Order No. 47, ordering this court-martial "for the trial of John A. Andrew Camp, No. 13 of Stoughton," and that it was an error on the part of the Court to proceed with this trial against said Camp for want of jurisdiction. A charter cannot be proceeded against by court-martial. An organization such as "John A. Andrew Camp No. 13," cannot be charged with a crime or with a violation of our C., R. and R., court-martialed, tried and punished. While it is true that a Camp may be suspended and its charter revoked, and, in that manner, its life taken away under some circumstances, it can only be done as specifically provided by our C., R. and R. "The Constitution seems to be clear that a charter cannot be revoked, or a Camp suspended, except for a failure to make quarterly reports, pay *per capita* tax, or violation of the C., R. and R."

Commander-in-Chief Bundy, Decision XLVIII., 14th, p. 42.

If all or any of the officers or members of Camp No. 13 were guilty of the specifications and charges made in this proceeding, they should have been proceeded against as individuals, proper service had upon them, and tried as such. Court-martial can only be resorted to and proceeded within our Order as authorized by our C., R. and R., and by referring to it, we can find no authority for the court-martial trial and punishment of a Camp, as a Camp and as an organization, and applying it to this case I am of the opinion that it accords to every brother the right to appear and defend himself, and if innocent to prove it; and in this proceeding even had there been a minority in the Camp who voted against the circular in question and who had in no sense violated any rule or obligation of our Order, it would have been useless for him to appear at this trial, providing a majority of the Camp had adopted the circular, for this proceeding was directed against the Camp, as an organization, and not against the members of it as individuals.

Entertaining the views herein expressed, I am obliged to set aside and vacate the findings and sentence of the Court with instructions to the Division Commander to reinstate John A. Andrew Camp No. 13.

The proceedings in this case are returned to Division Commander Leonard C. Couch, with directions to proceed in conformity with the foregoing.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XV.

In the matter of the eligibility of a son of Martin V. Robbins, Sergeant of Captain Paro's Company F, Dallas County, H.G.

CHICAGO, ILL., Feb. 9, 1899.

Col. JOHN REDMOND,
Commander Division of Kansas, S. V., U.S.A.

In view of the official statement authorized by the Secretary of War that under the provisions of the Hawkins Taylor Commission "The claim of said Robbins for service between June 24, 1861, and Sept. 24, 1861, a period of one month and fifteen days, was allowed as actual military service under the United States," I am of the opinion and do so decide that a son of the said Robbins is duly eligible to membership in the Order of Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., so far as concerns the honorable record of his father in the service of the United States.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XVI.— (J. A.-Gen., Op. VI.–VIII.)

In the matter of the appeal of Daniel Ritter Camp No. 24, Division of Ohio.

CHICAGO, ILL. March 15, 1899.

The record in this appeal shows that a requisition upon the Ohio Division was issued on Aug. 9, 1894, by the Division Commander in favor of Geo T. Crawford, amounting to $49 50. There being no funds out of which the requisition could be paid by the Division, it was sold by Crawford to Daniel Ritter No. 24. At the Thirteenth Annual Encampment of the Ohio Division, held the following year, the requisition not having been paid, a resolution was adopted by the Encampment providing for the application of the *per capita* tax due from the Camp to the payment of the requisition, such application not to exceed $15.00 per year. From July, 1895, to April, 1898, the *per capita* tax of Camp 24 amounted to $33.89, which was allowed to be paid for the several quarters by applying it on the requisition held by the Camp. The Camp failed to send in reports for *per capita* tax for the July and October, 1898, quarters, but ask that the Division Commander credit the Camp with payments of *per capita* tax on the requisition held by it. This the Commander refused to do, and by his Division Order, No. 7, suspended Camp 24 for failure to forward reports and *per capita* tax for the two preceding quarters. From this order of suspension Camp 24 appeals to the Commander-in-Chief.

To maintain the organization of our Order the payment of dues is required of its members, which dues are divided into the *per capita* tax, amounting to sixteen cents *per capita* per year to the Commandery-in-Chief, the amount fixed by the various Divisions for the maintenance of the Division, and the balance for the support of the Camp to which the member belongs. The amount and manner of payment of the Commandery-in-Chief *per capita* tax is under the original and exclusive control of and is regulated by the Commandery-in-Chief, which is the supreme authority of our Order. The Commandery-in-Chief vests in the several Divisions and Camps the authority, within certain limitations, to fix the amount of Division *per capita* tax and Camp dues respectively

The amount of the Commandery-in-Chief *per capita* tax from each member, which is paid by him in the form of dues to the Camp, is received by the officers of his Camp for the purpose of remittance to the officers of his Division. They receive it for the purpose of remittance to the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief. Any excess, over and above the Commandery-in-Chief *per capita* tax and the Division *per capita* tax paid by the member in the form of dues, is under the control of the Camp to which he belongs Likewise, any excess in the form of *per capita* tax paid by the officers of the Camp to the Division, above the four cents *per capita* tax per quarter due to the Commandery-in-Chief, is under the control of the Division. But it is not within the power of the Camp or the Division, or the officers of either, to remit the *per capita* tax due to the Commandery-in-Chief, or to divert it from the purpose for which every member of our organization is required to pay it by our Constitution. If a Division or the officers of a Division can remit the *per capita* tax required of a Camp to the Division, including the Commandery-in-Chief *per capita* tax, or provide for its application to the payment of a requisition held by a Camp against the Division, then the only way to keep the Camp and its members in good standing in the Order would be for the Division to pay the Commandery-in-Chief *per capita* tax out of funds received from other sources The Division Commander, in this case, claims that he has not the funds to pay this tax. Furthermore, if the action of the Division Encampment in this case was valid with reference to Camp 24, it would be proper for a Division to take like action with every Camp, which might have a claim against the Division. Following this out, suppose this Division should be indebted to all of its Camps and should vote to allow each Camp to apply its *per capita* tax upon its claim against the Division In such a case the Division would have absolutely no resources to meet the *per capita* tax, without considering the other expenses and fixed charges, and the Division, Camps and membership would necessarily lose life in the Order, and the Commandery-in-Chief be deprived of its tax for which it had provided and which had been paid by the members in accordance with such provision. Of course the Division would be liable to the Camps for the amount of their claims, as the Division is liable to Camp 24 in this case for the amount of the requisition, but the Division can pay the obligation only out of its own resources, and the Camp can subject to its payment only the property of the Division.

The principle invoked in this decision must have controlled in decision XXV. rendered by Commander-in-Chief Maccabe, p. 25, 13th.

Following the suggestions herein set forth, I am of the opinion that the action of the Division Encampment, in so far as it sought to specifically divert and apply the Commandery-in-Chief *per capita* tax to the payment of its Division debts, was void, and that the Camp should pay to the Division officers, for remittance to the Commandery-in-Chief officers, the Commandery-in-Chief *per capita* tax for the July and October, 1898, quarters and subsequent quarters; that the recommendation of the Judge Advocate-General is not approved; the appeal herein is dismissed; the order of Division Commander E. H. Archer is sustained, and he is hereby directed to proceed in accordance with the foregoing.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion VI.

In the matter of the appeal of Daniel Ritter Camp No. 24, Sons of Veterans, Massillon, Ohio.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., March 9, 1899.

GEN. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Sir: I have examined the record in the appeal of Daniel Ritter Camp No. 24, from the Order of Commander E. H. Archer suspending said Camp, and submit the following: —

Section 4 of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations provides that Division Commanders may suspend delinquent Camps in their discretion, for failure to make quarterly reports or to perform any other duties required of them by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, etc. The record, which is not disputed, shows that this Camp for two quarters failed to make a report. In that case there is no doubt of the right of the Division Commander to suspend the Camp until such reports are made. If General Order No. 7 of the Ohio Division should have suspended said Camp on the separate ground of failure to make reports then this appeal would be of no avail.

However, paragraph 5 of the General Order suspends the Camp for "being in arrears for report and payment of *per capita* tax." The cause assigned is a double one and it does not appear that the Commander assumes to suspend the Camp for the single reason that there had been a failure of reports. It remains, therefore, for us to examine the record and ascertain whether or not the *per capita* tax was paid, in contemplation of law. If the Camp was in arrears for *per capita* tax, then the suspension for the cause assigned in paragraph 5, General Order No. 7, was right and proper. If the *per capita* tax was paid then the double assignment of cause fails and the camp was wrongly suspended

An examination of the record seems to support a finding that Daniel Ritter Camp No. 24 was the rightful owner of the requisition against the Ohio Division and that the action was taken by the 1895 Encampment, allowing the requisition to be applied on the *per capita* tax of the camp not to exceed fifteen dollars ($15.00) per year, and that said requisition was so accepted and honored by all Division Commanders, since, with the exception of Commander Archer, and it is not disputed that the balance of said requisition sufficient to meet the payments of *per capita* tax was still owing to said Camp. If such were not the fact evidence would be easily deducible to dispute the same.

The action of the Division Encampment in 1895 seems plainly to have been to the effect that the Division gave credit to the amount of the requisition to Daniel Ritter Camp No. 24. This there is no doubt it had the right to do, and such credit was properly applicable to the payment of indebtedness from the Camp to the Division. The Division seems by its own act to have so applied the debt, and it seems clear that the Camp had the right to have the debt so applied. At the time of the suspension the Camp then was not in arrears in the payment of *per capita* tax.

Thus it will be seen that the Camp was liable to suspension for failure to make reports, but not for "being in arrears with reports and payments of *per capita* tax." There is no question but the Division is entitled to reports from the Camps. Otherwise the commander could not ascertain how to apply the credit of the Camps on the books of the Division. The Camp should be held to strict accountability for its reports, and should be suspended in case of failure to make them, but we do not think this Camp can be suspended on the ground for non-payment of *per capita* tax.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Opinion VIII.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. March 17, 1899.

GEN. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, 84 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: Yours of the 15th enclosing opinion in the matter of the appeal of Daniel Ritter Camp No. 24, Division of Ohio, received. I did not deem it necessary in the recent opinion rendered by me to argue the question which is argued in your opinion. Otherwise I would have set out some reasons which I think would have led you to a different conclusion. The matter, however, is now done and I suppose will not be recalled.

Upon the theory laid down in your opinion, if a member pays his dues to the Camp he thereby puts himself in good standing with the Commandery-in-Chief, whether the Camp pays or not, and if the proper portion of his dues do

not go to the Commandery-in-Chief, it would be by reason of some one's misappropriation. You will see by Article 3 of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations that the *per capita* tax is assessed by the Division against the Camp, and by the Commandery-in-Chief against the Division. The language, I admit, is somewhat ambiguous, but I think the only construction which could be placed upon it is that the tax is assessed against the Camp or the Division, the amount of the tax being determined by the members in either.

You also see by another section of the Constitution that dues may be remitted by the Camp in certain cases. In that case then, what becomes of the *per capita* tax due the Commandery-in-Chief? On the principle laid down in your decision the Commandery-in-Chief would lose the *per capita* tax and the Camp would not be liable for it. This, however, is not the law, and the Camp must pay *per capita* tax to the Division on all of its members in good standing and the Division in turn must pay *per capita* tax to the Commandery-in-Chief on all members in good standing, whether the Camps have remitted dues to members or not. If the funds were kept separate and were required by law to be kept separate, and if the liability for *per capita* tax to the Division was against the member instead of the Camp, then I submit that the decision as rendered would be correct, but Article III. of the Constitution does not so state. It is well known that the *per capita* tax fund is not kept separate and that the *per capita* tax is paid both by the Camp and Division out of the general funds, and we know that the Division does not set aside the *per capita* tax as it is paid in. It loses its identity in the general funds from which all debts are paid.

It cannot be argued that the credit given to Camp No. 24 by reason of a debt recognized by the Division, amounted to the remission of *per capita* tax. It simply amounted to the prepayment of *per capita* tax. Of course it cannot be disputed that the payment of *per capita* tax is a primary liability and its payment should not be jeopardized, but it cannot be said in good conscience that the credit which was given three or four years ago must lose its priority, permit the running expenses of the Division to be paid and then be vacated by the General Order of the Commander of the Division upon the theory that, not having funds out of which to pay the *per capita* tax, having exhausted them in the running expenses of the Division, he can go back past the recent debts which have been paid and make a new charge against Camp 24 whose debt was liquidated and satisfied. Neither equity nor any principle of law would permit such a proceeding. Of course the Division cannot remit the *per capita* tax, and the decision of General Maceabe is not in point, either in fact or in principle. The proceeding in this case is not a remission of *per capita* tax, nor is it a remission of dues It is the repudiation of the requisition drawn by the Division upon its general funds and accepted in payment of the debt due not to any special fund of the Division but to the general funds of the Division.

The remote contingency expressed in the opinion can have no bearing upon the case. It is a matter for the executive of the Division, to determine what debts shall be paid, or if necessary to withhold payment of some in order to reserve funds necessary for *per capita* tax, and the Commander of the Division should not lose sight of the fact that the *per capita* tax to the Commandery-in-Chief is a primary liability, but he cannot go back three or four years and disturb the settlement of the claim upon the theory that a portion of the Order was invalid for the reason that the *per capita* tax is a separate and sacred fund It is not such, either by the law or the practise of the Order. The *per capita* tax is a liability of the Camp and not of the member, and according to the law and the practice of the Order, is paid out of the general funds. If the Division does not pay the *per capita* tax, who is suspended, the Division or simply the individual members who are delinquent? The answer to the question settles the controversy.

I request that this letter be spread upon the record in the case.

Yours respectfully,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision XVII.—(J. A.-Gen., Op. VII.)

In re the court-martial of Folyard D. MacMennomy of Camp No. 10, Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

CHICAGO, ILL., March 28, 1899.

Col. A. S. MOULTHROPE,
Commanding Division of Pa., S. V., U.S.A.

The records in the proceedings of court-martial of Folyard D. MacMennomy of Lt. John T. Groble Camp No. 10, Division of Pennsylvania, is returned herewith to the Division Commander.

The recommendation of the Judge Advocate-General in the case is approved for the reasons set forth in his opinion. The findings and sentence of the Court is set aside and a new trial granted.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion No. VII.

In the matter of the court-martial of Folyard D. MacMennomy of Camp No. 10, Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., March 16, 1899.

GEN. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Sir:—I submit herewith record in the case of the court-martial of Folyard D. MacMennomy of Camp No. 10, Division of Pennsylvania, U.S.A. This record has come to the hands of the Advocate-General directly from the headquarters of the Pennsylvania Division and not through the regular channel. I have examined the record, however, and forward it to the Commandery with the opinion, which I submit now so as to save extra transmission.

I have examined the record in the case and find that while a copy of the notice to the accused is set out, there is no proof in the record that such notice was ever served and the record therefore is defective and I would recommend that the proceedings on that ground be not approved.

The facts set out in the record are not very definite and it seems as if the evidence would not justify the finding, even if the record was not defective as to notice It is charged that the accused commenced and conducted a prosecution without authority from the Camp. This is not a violation of either the rules of the Order or the law of the land, unless he fraudulently assumed to represent the Camp. Any citizen has the right to commence prosecution against any other citizen whenever a crime is committed and he sees fit to do so. He is, of course, at liberty to abandon that prosecution at any time and in his duties and rights as a citizen he need not answer to the Camp of the Sons of Veterans, unless his act is treasonable or in violation of the law.

There seems to be more foundation for the claim that the accused embezzled money, but the evidence is so indefinite that it does not seem, in the mind of the Judge Advocate-General, to justify the finding. If the facts existed it was certainly possible to prove them with explicit evidence. I recommend that the finding be not approved.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision XVIII.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 19, 1899.

C. H. E. MORAN,
Adjutant New York Division, S. V., U.S.A.,

In reference to the basis upon which the representation to which each Camp is entitled in the Division Encampment is determined, I am of the opinion,

and do so decide, that by Section 2 and Section 5, of Article II., Chapter III., Pages 23 and 24 of the C., R. and R., the number of representatives to which each Camp is entitled in the Division encampment is based upon and determined by the First Sergeant's report for the quarter ending September 30, next preceding the election, and therefore, the Camp mentioned by you would base its representation upon a membership of one hundred and fifty, notwithstanding the fact that its subsequent reports filed prior to the holding of the Division encampment show a loss in its membership.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XIX.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 19, 1899.

Col. GEO. S. WHITMORE,
Commander Maryland Division, S. V., U.S.A.

In the matter of the commission to the Quartermaster of the Maryland Division, S.V., U.S.A., I am of the opinion, and so decide, that the Quartermaster of the Maryland Division, being an elective officer, should be commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XX.— (J. A.-Gen., Op. XIII.)

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 17, 1899.

Col. RALPH SHELDON,
Commander New York Division, S. V., U.S.A.

In the matter of the court-martial proceedings against John Abar, of R. J. Myers Camp No. 35, Division of New York, I herewith hand you Opinion XIII., of the Judge Advocate-General. I concur in the opinion and the recommendation of the Judge Advocate-General, and hereby approve the finding of the court and the sentence imposed. You are hereby directed to carry the same into effect at once.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion XIII.

In the matter of the court-martial of John Abar, Camp No. 35, Division of New York, S.V., U.S.A.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Aug. 15, 1899

Gen. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Sir: — I have examined the record in the court-martial of John Abar, Camp 35, Division of New York, S.V., U.S.A., and find that the accused was duly served with notice of the charges and proceedings against him, and that the proceedings were in due form, and that the finding of the court is sustained by the evidence.

I, therefore, recommend that the finding and sentence of the court be approved.

Yours very respectfully,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision XXI.—(J. A.-Gen., Op. XIV.)

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 17, 1899.

Col. GEO. H. BAILEY,
Commander Division of New Jersey, S. V., U.S.A.

I herewith hand you Opinion XIV., of the Judge Advocate-General, in answer to your question submitted July 5, 1899, relative to the amount to be collected for the reinstatement of a dropped member arising in Dayton Camp, No. 5, of your Division. I concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and adopt the same as my decision upon the question raised.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion XIV.

Opinion on the question of the payment of arrearages for reinstatement.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Aug. 15, 1899.

Gen. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Sir: — In response to your request of recent date for an opinion on the question as to whether the member dropped for more than one year shall in paying his dues for reinstatement, pay the year's dues last prior to his reinstatement, or shall pay the year's dues which accrued at the time of his delinquency, I have examined the question with some interest and find no preeedent in the law of the Order. It would seem at first as if a decision of the question would be an arbitrary one without either position being supported by good reason, but we find that the C., R. and R. provides that after one year's delinquency in the payment of dues the member shall be dropped. There are, up to the time of dropping him, charges made against him on the books of the Camp. If he does not pay his arrearages before the expiration of the year he is dropped, but the year's delinquent dues remain on the books as a charge against him and the amount of his accrued indebtedness to the Camp. After one year there is no account kept by the Camp with him, neither does he derive any benefit from the Camp or his relations therewith.

It has been the policy of the Order to encourage membership, and to keep membership as far as possible from being burdensome, and it seems to us that the purpose of the law is that the member should be permitted to put himself in good standing by squaring his account with the Camp. His account with the Camp always shows him in arrears for the one year, for the non-payment of which he was dropped. This is a standing indebtedness to his Camp for which he is liable and which can be collected at law. It seems natural, therefore, that when he reinstates himself by the payment of one year's dues, it should be the year's dues which he owes and for which he is delinquent. It is a general rule of construction that the law will not be arbitrarily construed where there is good reason supporting the construction which is not arbitrary, and it seems to me, in constructing the section providing for the suspension and dropping of members with the section providing for the reinstatement of members, that we must conclude that the law intends that the delinquent member shall, before he can be reinstated, remove the cause for which he was dropped. Any other construction, it seems to me, would be arbitrary and without foundation in principle. I beg to remain,

Yours very respectfully,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision XXII.

In the matter of the court-martial of E. B. Rockwell of J. F. Reynolds Camp, No. 4, Division of Pennsylvania.

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 28, 1899.

Col. S. S. HORN,
Commander Pennsylvania Division, S. V., U.S.A.

In this case E. B. Rockwell is charged with assisting another member of the Camp in bringing action at law against the Camp, and acting as counsel for such member; and he is also further charged with "conduct unbecoming a member of the Order, in his relations with the Order," in that he used abusive and indecent language — specifying the terms used — towards the members of his Camp.

No law of the Order or by-law of Camp 4, Division of Pennsylvania, prohibits a member acting as counsel for, or advising, or assisting another who may bring suit against the Camp. That portion of Specification 1, Charge 1, and Specification 2, Charge 1, will therefore not support a conviction.

Specification 1 sets up the use of opprobrious epithets with reference to the members of the Camp. The evidence proves the use of all the objectionable language as charged. Such conduct is unbecoming a member in his relations to the Order, and the accused should receive the punishment imposed by the court-martial.

The finding and sentence in this case is therefore approved, and the said E. B. Rockwell is dishonorably discharged and dismissed from the Order of Sons of Veterans.

This case is returned and you are hereby directed to carry the sentence into effect at once.

FRANK L. SHEPARD.
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XXIII.

In the matter of the court-martial of Frank Rockwell of J. F. Reynolds Camp, No. 4, Division of Pennsylvania.

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 28, 1899.

Col. S. S. HORN,
Commander Division of Pennsylvania, S. V., U.S.A.

Charge 1 contains but a single specification, viz.: That the accused violated a by-law of the Camp, which prohibited him bringing suit against the Camp, or its members, and to which he had subscribed at the time of his muster. The specification charges him with summoning certain members of the Camp, but the evidence shows that he brought suit against the Camp to recover sick benefits. It will therefore be assumed that the Camp was incorporated.

The Order of Sons of Veterans makes no provision in its laws for sick or death benefits to be paid to its members; and it is not essential to the good order and discipline of the Order, that any regulations not authorized by the Order, but which may be adopted by a Camp, shall be enforced by the disciplinary power of the Order.

The Camp, being a corporation, is amenable to the law of the land, applying to such organizations. The courts have always encouraged disputants to settle their differences by arbitration or by means other than litigation, when such parties can agree to do so; but no court has ever attempted to enforce any person to resort to a forum not provided by law, or to coerce such a one to waive his right as a citizen, to bring suit for a redress of what he believes

to be an injury to himself or his property. A by-law ousting the jurisdiction of the courts by punishing one who violates the provisions of that by-law with expulsion from the association has been held unlawful.

In the case of Sweeney vs. Rev. Hugh McLaughlin Benefit Society, 14 Weekly Notes of Cases, 466, tried in the Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas, a case very similar to this, such a by-law was held a violation of the Constitution of the Commonwealth; and a mandamus was awarded, commanding the association to restore to membership the party expelled. A like decision was reached in State *ex rel.* Merchants' Exchange, 2 Mo. App., 96.

It is apparent that even if the by-law in question was authorized by the laws of the Order, the courts of the State in which Camp No. 4, Division of Pennsylvania, is located, would not permit it to be enforced against a member of the Camp.

The second charge having been withdrawn, the sentence of the court-martial should be, and is hereby set aside and vacated.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Decision XXIV.—(J. A.-Gen., Op. XI.)

In re the court-martial of J. Griffith Westbrook of Tappan Camp, No. 1, Division of New York

CHICAGO, ILL., April 5, 1899.

Col. E. W. ESTES,
Commander Division of New York.

The record in the court-martial proceedings against J. Griffith Westbrook of Tappen Camp, No 1, Division of New York, together with the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General attached thereto, is returned to you herewith.

I concur in the opinion and recommendations of the Judge Advocate General, and hereby approve the findings of the Court and the sentence imposed; and you are hereby directed to carry the sentence into effect at once.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion XI.

In the matter of the court-martial of J. Griffith Westbrook, Camp No. 1, Division of New York, S.V., U.S.A.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., March 29, 1899.

Gen. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Sir: I have examined the record in the court-martial of J. Griffith Westbrook of Camp No. 1, Division of New York. I find the record to be complete, and to show that the accused was duly served with notice, that the proceedings were in due form, and that the finding of the court was sustained by the evidence.

I therefore recommend that the finding and sentence of the court-martial be approved.

Very respectfully,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision XXV.— (J. A.-Gen., Op. XII.)

CHICAGO, ILL., June 6, 1899.

Col. GEORGE N. HOWARD,
Commanding Division of Massachusetts, S. V., U.S.A.

In the matter of the court-martial proceedings against C. E. Roots of John P. Lovell Camp (Saugus), No. 92, Division of Massachusetts, S.V., U.S.A., on the charge of violation of his pledge given at the time of his installation as quartermaster-sergeant of said Camp, the specification being "misappropriation of Camp funds and the failure to turn over the same to his successor," opinion No. 12 of Judge Advocate-General Noel is hereby approved. I affirm the finding of the court, the sentence imposed and approve the recommendation of the Division Commander, and direct that Division Commander George N. Howard carry the same into effect.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Opinion XII.

In the matter of court-martial of C. E. Roots, Camp No. 92, Division of Massachusetts.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., June 5, 1899.

Gen. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief

Sir: I have examined the record in the case of the court-martial of C. E. Roots of Camp No. 92, Division of Massachusetts. I find the record to be complete, that the proceedings were in due form, and that the finding of the Court was sustained by the evidence. I therefore recommend that the findings and sentence of the court be approved.

Yours very respectfully,

JAMES W. NOEL,
Judge Advocate-General.

Decision XXVI.

In the matter of the appeal from the decision of the Division Commander.

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 28, 1899.

COL. RALPH SHELDON,
Commander Division of New York S. V., U.S.A.

The Sixteenth Annual Encampment of the Division of New York passed a resolution providing that all stationery of the Division should bear the stamp of the International Typographical Union and be printed by printing establishments having the same. The Division Commander held the resolution to be unconstitutional, and from this decision the appeal is made.

At the Sixteenth National Encampment the following resolution was adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief: —

"That we recommend that the members of the Commandery-in-Chief, as individuals, use their influence to induce the members of the various Divisions to subscribe for and support the worthy organs now being published in our interests by brothers of the Order, and that the printing of the Order be given to the fraternal press in all instances where it can meet competition."

This resolution by the Commandery-in-Chief is binding upon the subordinate branches of the Order, and as the resolution adopted by the Division Encampment of New York contravenes the provisions of this resolution, it must be held to be unconstitutional and void, and it is so held, and the appeal is therefore dismissed and the decision of the Division Commander sustained.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

The Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Commander-in-Chief will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports under the rule.

The Commander-in-Chief (assuming command): Brothers, the next thing in order is the report of Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief Cox.

Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief Cox submitted and read the following report: —

REPORT OF SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

To the Commander-in-Chief and Members of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.:—

Brothers:— I have the honor to submit the following as my report as Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

I have not been called upon to do any official work, during my term, except to inspect Headquarters of the Connecticut Division, which I found in excellent condition.

I desire to recommend to this Encampment the resolution presented by Past Captain F. G. Blakeslee of G. A. Stedman Camp, No. 6, Hartford, Conn.:—

WHEREAS, During the late war with Spain, a number of our brothers, emulating the example of their fathers, served their country by entering the military or naval service of the United States; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that such patriotic service should be recognized by the order of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief be directed to have prepared a suitable decoration to be known as the War Cross, and to present the same to each member of the Order in good standing, who served in the United States Army, Navy or Marine Corps, regular or volunteer, during the Spanish War and was honorably discharged therefrom.

DESIGN OF WAR CROSS.

The War Cross of the Order shall consist of a bronze cross of the same design as that worn by past captains, suspended by means of a specially designed ribbon from a bronze bar containing the words, "SPANISH WAR," said bar to be surmounted by the emblem of the rising sun, in the rays of which the word "VETERAN" shall appear.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. E. COX,

Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports; under the rule.

The next business in order is the report of the Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief. Have you a report to make, Brother Green?

The Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief: Commander, the Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief has no report to make.

The Commander-in-Chief: Then we will listen to the report of the Adjutant-General which is next in order.

Adjutant-General Abbott submitted and read the following report: —

REPORT OF ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

GEN. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, S.V., U.S.A.

The moment has arrived in our official relations when I am called upon to render an account of the important trust you reposed in me, in appointing me your Adjutant-General. The temptation for one who, in former years, was so closely identified with the building up of our organization, to digress from what should naturally be the limits and boundaries in a report of this character, is very great, and should I trespass therefrom, I trust you will overlook that, as you have so many times in the past overlooked my failings.

WASTE PAPER.

Among the supplies received from my predecessor were several hundred weight of old letters, records and books, etc., accumulated since the early days of the Order, which could be of no possible value in the future, and which would require valuable space, and call for expense of packing and freighting each year, with no hope of their ever again being serviceable to the Order. These were carefully sorted and those of any possible value retained and the balance destroyed.

RECORDS.

The several books of record appertaining to my department, which I received from my predecessor, have been maintained through the year.

There have been issued from the department of the Adjutant-General, twenty-three dispensations. There have also been issued eight General Orders, two circulars, and eighteen Special Orders, copies of which accompany this report. Charters for ninety-four Camps have also been issued; the table pertaining to the same also accompanies this report.

TABLES.

Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4, herewith attached, are the Adjutant-General's Consolidated Reports for the quarters ending September 30 and December 31, 1898, and March 21 and June 30, 1899.

Table No. 5 is the recapitulation showing gains and losses.

Table No. 6 is the Roster of Division Commanders, 1899-1900.

Table No. 7 is the table of applications for Camp charters by Divisions.

Table No. 8 is the inventory of property in Adjutant-General's headquarters.

RECEIPTS.

The cash book shows the receipts of the Adjutant-General's office to have been:

For *per capita* tax	$4,858.21
For charter fees	182.00

CARD INDEX.

At a considerable expenditure of labor and some money, a card index system, providing for the complete record of a Camp from the approval of the application, to its standing at the end of every quarter, has been installed. Heretofore the records of individual Camps have been scattered through several volumes, and the quarterly standing could only be found by searching the Adjutant's consolidated reports, but now at a moment's notice the entire record of a Camp can be inspected at a glance, which will be a great saving of time to my successors and will keep the records much more complete. Colonel Archer of Ohio deserves credit for introducing this system to the Order, and each Division would do well to adopt it.

OFFICIAL QUESTIONS.

There has been but one official question submitted to the Council-in-Chief during your term of office, which was for the purpose of determining the date of holding this Encampment. The Council were unanimous in supporting the date recommended by you. The canvass of the vote will be submitted to the Council-in-Chief for verification.

DIVISION BY-LAWS.

The only by-laws submitted for the approval of the Commander-in-Chief were from the Divisions of California and Washington. Both were approved, the latter with some minor corrections to make them conform to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

CHANGES IN FORMS.

Several of my predecessors have recommended changes in Forms 37 and 49 to agree with the present usages of the Order. I earnestly add my recommendation to theirs, and admit my surprise that my immediate predecessor, who made these same recommendations, now having charge of the department where such alterations are made, has failed to carry out his own recommendations.

ROLL OF HONOR.

In pursuance of a resolution passed by the Seventeenth Annual Encampment, it was required that a roll of those members of the Order who served in the Spanish-American War should be published with the proceedings of that Encampment. It became evident that it would not be practical to delay the publishing of the proceedings until the names for the required roll could be obtained. It was, therefore, deemed advisable that the proceedings should be promulgated, and the Roll of

G. B. ABBOTT,

(PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF),

ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

1898-1899.

Honor be published subsequently in the form of a supplement, which has been done and it is now ready for distribution. Notwithstanding the earnest appeals made in several General Orders, it was with great difficulty that the names for this Roll of Honor have been obtained, and its publication was delayed until the last moment, hoping that some of the delinquent Divisions would furnish the necessary information. As it is, the Roll is very incomplete, but no blame should be attached to the Commandery-in-Chief officers. Many Camp officers were derelict in forwarding these reports, and many of those received were so meagre in data, and the handwriting so undecipherable, that the Roll, unfortunately, shows omissions, discrepancies and errors. However, deficient as it is, it is indeed a Roll of Honor, and gives great credit to our Order. Hereafter, it cannot be successfully maintained that the rank and file of our membership is deficient in true patriotism or unwilling to emulate the worthy example of our illustrious fathers. The flag for which they fought will never want for defenders. The fathers may peacefully sleep, for their boys are on guard.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

It has been my pleasure to visit the Division Encampments of Illinois, Pennsylvania and Indiana. My visit to the latter Division was more or less official in character, owing to the dereliction of the officers of that Division at that time. It is a satisfaction to state that the Division at this time is in the hands of competent officers who are earnest and thorough-going, and whose ambition is not personal, but for the good of the Order. I do not believe that it will be necessary for a Commandery-in-Chief officer to attend the next Encampment of that Division under the circumstances which seemed to demand such at the last one.

MILITARY SERVICE.

Practically the only source of controversy which has arisen between the headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief and those of the several Divisions was caused by the change in the Constitution, effected at Omaha, remitting the dues of members of the Order in the United States service. While the law, in spirit, is commendable, the difficulty of honestly and justly complying therewith seems to cause more trouble than the benefit therefrom justifies. It is evidently the duty of an Adjutant-General to exact all the tax justly due to the Commandery-in-Chief. Naturally Division Commanders refuse to pay tax upon members which they have not received. Camp officers fail to supply accurate information as to who are entitled, in their respective Camps, to receive the benefit of this law, simply deducting from the amount of tax for a certain number of members, without specifying their names or where they may be in service. The Adjutant-General, not having the specific information, declines to accept this reduction unless specific information is forthcoming, and therein the trouble arises. The officers of the Divisions and the Commandery-in-Chief endeavor to perform their respective duties, but the negligent Camp officers cause the trouble. I am inclined to believe that this law should be stricken from our Constitution, and do so recommend.

BADGES FOR SPANISH WAR VETERANS.

A much vexed and unsettled question has also arisen concerning the badges for our brothers who served in the Spanish-American war. The resolution, as it passed the last Encampment, provided that the Commander-in-Chief should have such a badge prepared, and that it should be carried in stock by the Quartermaster-General. Many members of the Order, and some Division officers, labor under the impression that these badges should be furnished free of expense to Camps. Some further act of the Commandery-in-Chief should make this matter clear. My own opinion is that the expense should not be borne either by the Commandery-in-Chief or the Divisions. Even the meagre records that we have been able to secure show that fully 2,000 members would be entitled to these badges. A badge that would be appropriate, and that a member would be proud to wear, cannot be provided for less than about sixty cents, and it is easy to estimate that the present financial condition of the Commandery-in-Chief would not warrant such an outlay. Concerning this badge, I am under the impression that it should be distributed with the greatest of care, that the more difficult it is to obtain, and the more importance we, as an organization, attach to it, the more will it be prized by the one who receives it. Each badge should be numbered, and a record should be kept, showing to whom each badge so numbered is given, and it should be accompanied by a certificate signed by the Commander-in-Chief, under the seal of the Commandery, setting forth the service of the brother and his affiliation in the Order of Sons of Veterans. The delay in preparing these badges heretofore, has been owing to the want of information as to the number which would probably be required. Furthermore, you desired that the material from which they should be made should be captured Spanish cannon, and as it was impossible to obtain any such without an act of Congress, final action was necessarily deferred.

REPORTS.

The bane of every Adjutant-General has been the consolidated reports as received from the various Division headquarters. It seems almost impossible for Division officers to prepare their reports correctly, and the many errors appearing therein are apparently due to pure carelessness. Not six Divisions in the roster have, during the past year, sent in reports which were correct in every particular. I do not mention this with the expectation that any law can be passed which will better this state of affairs, but with the hope that it may impress some of those present, who are Division Commanders, or expect to be, with the importance of seeing that their subordinates perform their duties more accurately.

MEMBERSHIP.

This brings me to the consideration of a condition of affairs which is evident in comparing my consolidated reports for the four quarters of the official year just closing. Judging from the falling off in the June quarter from the March quarter of this year, one would naturally pre-

sume that the membership had sustained a terrible loss. This, however, is more apparent than real. In fact, I do not believe that there has been any perceptible loss, but between the close of the March quarter and that of the June quarter there was a change of administration in nearly all of the Divisions. It is but natural that each retiring Commander should exert himself to the utmost to secure a report from every Camp in his Division at the close of his administration, that his final report may redound as much to his credit as it possibly can. His successor being equally ambitious to make a good showing at the close of his administration, immediately upon his assuming office proceeds to prune down the membership of his Division to the lowest point he conscientiously can, and during the following three quarters will labor gradually to get his negligent and delinquent Camps into line. He is, therefore, very prompt in closing up his consolidated report for his first quarter which, unfortunately for the showing of the Adjutant-General, is the latter's last quarter. It is a fact that, with the exception of three Divisions, not one Commander held open his June report to the limit of time given him by the Adjutant-General for getting in his report for this Encampment. In one large Division over a thousand members were suspended, and I am satisfied from outside information, and from what the Commander himself has written me, that fully eighty per cent, if not more, of that thousand will remain in the Order. If the Commanders of Divisions would exercise as much diligence in getting in their reports for the first quarter of their administrations as they do for the last, I am satisfied that the Adjutant-General's report for the last quarter of his term would show more correctly the strength of the Order than it does under the present conditions. You assumed command on Sept. 14, 1898, and the report for September 30 shows a membership of 28,946. The report for the quarter ending March 31, 1899, shows a membership of slightly over 30,000. June 30, 1899, the membership was a little less than 27,000. Owing to the early date of this Encampment, the reports from Divisions being sent in much earlier than usual, and for reasons which I have already assigned, the report for this quarter does not show the actual strength of the Order. It seems fair to presume that the September 30 report will show a membership equal to that of one year ago.

While these figures do not indicate as large a membership as we hoped they would, nor as we were justified in supposing they would, from the amount of work that has been expended by yourself and by an excellent Corps of Division Commanders, nevertheless, we should perhaps be satisfied. We have sustained a heavy loss through the western Divisions, owing to two reasons. A large percentage of our membership have been engaged in the Philippine war, and many eligible young men, from whom we naturally would expect to obtain recruits, have also been occupied there. Furthermore, a careful review of the history of the Order for the last ten years will impress any one with the fact, that as we have curtailed the military features of our organization and become more civic, the western Divisions have gradually shrunk in membership, as in those the military spirit has ever been more marked, and the military features of the Order, for-

merly so attractive to them, having been withdrawn, they cease to become enthusiastic workers in our organization.

NEGLECTED REPORTS.

There is one matter to which I desire to call the attention of the Commandery-in-Chief through you, which, while not pertaining entirely to the duties of my office, nevertheless, indirectly affects the success of maintaining it. I refer to the negligence of officers in forwarding the required reports. Not especially the consolidated Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports from the Division headquarters, but the reports of other Division officers, and more especially of Camp officers to the Division officers. Our Constitution provides for but one manner of exercising discipline, and that is by way of court-martial. If our Order were exclusively and purely military, I would hesitate in suggesting a change in that matter; but as we are at present existing, we are more a civic organization than we are a military one, and I apprehend that it would not be absolutely incongruous for us to adopt, for minor offences, and more particularly for failure to perform necessary duties, some other manner of discipline than the tedious and unsatisfactory court-martial. There should be some means whereby a Division Commander could compel a Camp Commander to make his necessary reports, or relieve him from such command, and place some other officer in charge who would make the required reports, without the formality of a court-martial. I would not recommend degradation from office, for the first offence, at least, but I seriously commend to the consideration of this Encampment, the necessity of some means whereby a Division Commander can secure from his Camp officers the reports required by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations. If a Camp Commander is made to realize that, failing to perform his duties in this particular, the Division Commander has the power to place some one in his office, even temporarily, who *will* do it, I believe the effect would be beneficial.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Of recent years there has been much earnest inquiry and discussion, looking for the cause of the gradual shrinkage in our membership, and the difficulties of increasing it, or even maintaining it to its current standard. Many causes have been assigned, many remedies suggested, some of which have been adopted, but still the conditions remain the same. If I had one desire more than another, in accepting the position I am now about to relinquish, it was, if possible, by the intimate connection it would again give me with the Order, to ferret out the causes of our decadence, or, rather, the reasons for our lack of progress. So far as I am able to judge, the reasons are many, and are not the same in every locality, but it strikes me that the great remedy lies in earnest, loyal work. In former years our Division Commanders were fired with burning enthusiasm. They brought to their respective commands the very best business ability they possessed. They were unselfish in their devotion, unlimited in their time, and prodigal in the expenditure of their private purse, a condition which, unfortunately, does not prevail at this time, except in a few instances, and in these

cases the results justify this statement. It is a question whether we have the right to demand such a sacrifice. The fact that annually fewer brothers are coming forward offering to undertake our work under such burdens, demonstrates that we cannot depend upon maintaining our Order in this manner in the future. Such brothers becoming more scarce has left an opportunity for others less competent, and less willing to make such sacrifice to forge to the front, and Divisions have fallen off under the management of well meaning, but incompetent brothers.

In some instances, and I am pleased to note that they are very few, political ambition seems to have been the sole motive for securing honors in our Order. Invariably the results have been disastrous. We are unfortunate in being unable to command the services of those members competent to build up and maintain our organization. The ability required to build up, and manage successfully, Divisions like Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts, if employed by many organizations, would pay a good living salary; and in proportion to his success, good business judgment would demand that he be continued in his work so long as he met the requirements, but our Order is not so financially endowed that it may properly pay its officers for their labors, and the practice of changing each year would not justify a good business man in giving up his usual vocation and entering into a new one, for so short a time. Is it not possible that we are trying to maintain too cheap an organization? Are we not asking too much work for little or no pay, and may this not account for dwindling membership, and work not performed?

Is it not time that we should cease to be an organization of boys and assume the dignity of an organization of men? No organization can be successfully maintained without the "sinews of war." In an organization of pure sentiment, where there is no financial gain as a motive to induce persons to become members or to maintain a membership, there must come some force from without to keep interest from flagging and to promote a healthy growth. This work naturally should fall upon Division officers. We cannot expect them to bear the burden from their own purses, nor surrender their usual vocations for a work that pays them nothing. The result has been that in some Divisions it has been necessary to pay salaries out of all proportion to the Division's resources to get its clerical work performed. This has resulted in some instances in seriously crippling the effective work of the Division. Therefore the attention of the Encampment is urgently directed to the sums paid by Divisions for clerical services. By clerical services should be included the total sums paid by Divisions to their Adjutants and Quartermasters, or that may be allowed Division Commanders to expend for clerical services connected with the transaction of Division business.

Strange as it may seem, in many instances the largest percentage of payment is made by Divisions whose resources to meet the same are most limited. While the larger Divisions, like Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, with ample income, expend a small percentage of their resources for services, the Divisions numerically smaller ofttimes are compromised to pay relatively much larger salaries. In other words it

seems to be the rule that the less work required, and the less the ability to pay, the greater is the amount paid. Take, for example, the Division of Indiana, which has been allowing, up to this year, an aggregate amount for clerical services of $500, with an annual income for *per capita* tax of $550, while the Division of Massachusetts expends less than fifteen per cent of its income tax for salaries. The Division of Iowa expends nearly eighty-five per cent. True, some of the smaller Divisions are very conservative in their expenditures. Such Divisions as New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Michigan and Illinois are entirely within bounds. The Divisions of Alabama and Tennessee, South Dakota and Kansas certainly expend more than good business judgment would seem to justify, nor can it be said that the clerical work is any better performed in the Divisions paying the relatively higher salaries than where the relatively smaller salaries are paid.

The practical point in this lies in the fact that where so much is expended for salaries, there is so much less left for building up the Division by organizing new Camps and bringing into activity those which are moribund and lifeless. In one Division which I have named the salaries so completely devoured the resources that there has not been sufficient left to meet the *per capita* tax due the Commandery-in-Chief, or to even procure the necessary stationery, and I believe the Commandery-in-Chief should assume the responsibility of placing a limit on these expenditures, that the work of the Division may be better handled. I do not wish it understood that I undervalue the services of any brother, nor do I doubt but that in each instance the salary paid is earned, but the life of the Order and the Division is paramount to all other interests and should be conserved. To that end, I would recommend that an amendment be made to the Constitution whereby at no time shall more than fifty per cent of its current *per capita* tax received by a Division be expended for clerical services in transacting the Division business. There will then be an incentive created for Division officers to keep up their Camps and increase the membership, if by so doing their salaries will be increased in proportion therewith. In the Division of Ohio the clerical help receives a certain percentage of the gross receipts, and it seems to work in a satisfactory manner.

And now, sir, in closing this, my last official act, I beg that you will permit me, in a few words, though ever so inadequate, to express my deep appreciation for the continued kindness you have ever extended to me, and the unfailing confidence you have reposed in me. Our official and personal relations at headquarters could not have been more harmonious. Never once have I been made to feel, by any act of yours, that you were my superior officer. Had our positions been reversed, your courtesy to me at all times could not have been more marked; and the only sad thought that comes with this closing year of congenial labor is that which suggests that it is about to cease; and, though years may come and years may go, and the recollection of our happy days and nights together may be ever so strong and vivid, yet, they will never come again. We have lived them through; they are history; they are gone; and my earnest wish and prayer is that our Grand Commander above will ever guard you and direct you in all your undertakings.

G. B. Abbott, *Adjutant-General.*

TABLE No. 1.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1898.

DIVISION.	NO. IN GOOD STANDING AT DATE OF LAST REPORT		GAIN.						AG'REG'TE		LOSSES.										NO. IN GOOD STANDING.		No. Members Dropped.	No. Mustered during Quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is due.		Amount Received Per Capita Tax.	Cash on hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity, as per Quartermaster Sergeants' Reports.	No. of Members or their Families Relieved.	No. of Veterans or their Families Relieved.
			BY MUSTER IN.			BY REINSTAT'M'T		TOTAL GAIN			BY DISBANDED.		BY death.	BY Honorable Discharge.	BY Transfer.	BY SUSPENSION.		By Dishonorable Discharge.	TOTAL LOSS.												
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By Transfer	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.																		
Alabama and Tennessee	14	266	...	.....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	14	266	....	.....	...	....	1	2	21	....	2	22	12	244	.....	...	.....	$ 9 76	$ 91 08	135 73	.....	...	....
California and H. I	15	401	2	120	.....	....	4	2	124	17	525	....	.....	3	4	....	3	37	....	3	44	12	391	.....	2	90	15 68	103 80	214 15	47 50	....	....
Colorado	6	182	....	8	.....	....	1	....	9	6	191	....	.....	1	....	....	1	57	....	1	58	5	133	.....	...	.....	5 36	14 86	15 44	.....	....	....
Connecticut	26	760	....	6	.....	....	2	....	8	26	765	....	.....	....	11	2	.....	36	....	.....	29	26	729	3	....	.....	29 76	6 05	733 29	30 50	1	1
*Gulf	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Illinois	75	1930	3	172	4	1	46	4	122	79	2152	....	.....	7	9	17	9	273	1	9	312	70	1540	.....	3	133	70 12	47	927 82	62 25	16	6
*Indiana	35	904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iowa	42	917	1	32	1	7	122	8	155	50	1072	....	.....	....	7	...	14	312	....	14	319	36	753	.....	...	.....	35 00	18 39	.....	.....	...	....
Kansas	53	1303	....	27	7	8	112	8	146	61	1449	....	.....	1	2	....	7	268	...	7	271	54	1178	.....	...	.....	51 60	74 37	335 95	78 70	....	....
Kentucky	16	425	....	1	.....	....	.....	....	1	61	326	....	.....	....	....	....	.....	14	....	.....	14	16	312	.....	...	.....	12 48	77 75	.....	.....	...	....
Maine	47	1379	1	38	.....	....	19	1	57	45	1436	....	.....	2	3	2	.....	59	....	.....	66	48	1370	.....	1	18	54 84	70 28	1077 34	87	....	....
Maryland and D. C	22	517	....	6	.....	2	30	2	36	24	553	....	.....	2	3	....	.....	16	....	.....	21	24	532	.....	...	.....	22 56	56 83	179 18	14 53	2	....
Massachusetts	125	4067	....	36	8	....	78	....	122	125	4189	....	.....	13	13	18	.....	209	....	.....	253	125	3936	83	...	.....	160 56	477 97	2227 81	319 80	....	....
Michigan	58	1425	3	102	.....	2	96	5	198	63	1623	....	.....	2	3	....	22	522	....	22	527	41	1096	.....	3	.....	44 64	.....	333 56	26 30	1	1
*Minnesota	25	593	....	17	.....	....	.....	....	17	25	610	....	.....	....	....	....	7	149	....	7	149	25	574	.....	...	71	19 44	.....	.....	.....	...	....
Missouri	38	782	....	11	1	1	22	1	34	39	816	....	.....	1	5	2	9	178	....	9	181	30	635	.....	...	.....	26 28	43 19	766 42	47 80	1	....
Nebraska	27	537	1	20	.....	2	24	3	44	30	581	....	.....	1	2	1	11	238	....	11	242	19	339	.....	1	.....	15 48	.....	113 14	.....	...	....
New Hampshire	21	626	....	16	2	....	.....	....	18	21	644	....	.....	1	2	....	2	46	....	2	59	19	594	.....	...	16	28 76	121 05	641 04	16 00	2	....
New Jersey	27	844	....	6	1	....	2	....	9	27	853	....	.....	1	1	....	.....	25	....	.....	.....	27	826	11	...	.....	33 20	108 79	1353 94	132 16	6	4
New York	95	3291	3	167	6	11	294	14	467	109	3758	....	.....	6	9	4	3	218	....	3	235	106	3523	57	3	.....	149 56	80 76	7250 93	124 87	9	....
*Ohio	95	2048	2	104	1	....	7	2	112	95	2122	....	.....	1	6	1	38	731	....	38	731	56	1373	18	2	74	55 20	.....	.....	.....	...	....
Oregon	8	151	....	.....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	8	151	....	.....	....	....	....	.....	22	....	.....	22	8	129	.....	...	39	5 16	25 30	27 75	.....	...	....
Pennsylvania	154	6973	1	160	15	....	41	1	216	155	7189	4	.....	2	4	12	.....	340	....	4	344	151	6825	83	1	.....	273 92	222 86	11777 33	2297 31	73	6
Rhode Island	10	312	....	.....	2	....	7	....	3	10	315	....	.....	2	....	....	1	21	....	.....	23	9	292	.....	...	16	11 84	46 67	260 62	10 00	....	....
South Dakota	9	145	1	21	1	5	86	8	108	15	253	....	.....	....	....	....	3	62	....	3	62	12	191	.....	...	.....	10 24	28 61	.....	.....	...	....
Vermont	41	888	1	33	.....	....	9	1	47	42	935	1	.....	1	....	2	10	252	....	11	255	31	680	.....	1	.....	26 84	37 94	685 62	.....	....	....
Washington	13	270	2	44	.....	4	69	6	113	19	384	....	.....	3	4	....	6	124	....	6	127	13	257	....	2	18	13 04	39 79	105 69	.....	....	....
West Virginia	8	170	....	.....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	8	170	....	.....	....	....	....	2	39	....	2	40	6	130	.....	...	42	5 20	.....	.....	.....	....	....
Wisconsin	20	469	1	36	.....	1	21	2	57	22	526	....	.....	1	4	....	4	112	....	4	113	15	413	.....	...	.....	16 60	8 94	241 26	8 00	....	....
Totals	1125	32475	22	1188	49	44	1086	66	2323	1174	33757	5	.....	55	81	62	153	4363	1	157	4610	999	28946	235	19	519	$ 1199 80	$ 1756 65	$29434 26	3214 59	111	18

*Divisions either failed to report or report was incorrect, hence the impossibility of submitting a correct statement with proper balance.

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing at date of last report	1,125	32,475
GAIN:	Camps	Members.
By muster in	22	1,188
By transfer		49
By reinstatement	44	1,086
Total gain	66	2,323
Aggregate	1,174	33,757
LOSS:	Camps.	Members.
By disbandment	5	
By death		55
By honorable discharge		81
By dishonorable discharge		1
By transfer		62
By suspension	153	4,362
Total loss	157	4,510
Nunber remaining in good standing Sept. 30, 1898	1,017	28,946

Amount received for per capita tax	$ 1,199.80
Cash on hand at Division Headquarters	1,756.65
Cash on hand in Camps	29,434.26
Expended by Camps on Charity	3,214.59

Number of Members Families Relieved ..... 111.
" " Veterans " " ..... 18.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1898.

DIVISION.	NO. IN GOOD STANDING AT DATE OF LAST REPORT		GAIN.						AG'REG'TE		LOSSES.										NO. IN GOOD STANDING.		No. Members Dropped.	No. Mustered during Quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is due.		Amount Received Per Capita Tax.	Cash on hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity, as per Quartermaster Sergeants' Reports.	No. of Members or their Families Relieved.	No. of Veterans or their Families Relieved.
			BY MUSTER IN.		BY REINSTATM'T		TOTAL GAIN				BY DISBANDED.		BY SUSPENSION.				TOTAL LOSS.														
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By Transfer	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By death.	By Honorable Discharge.	By Transfer.	Camps.	Members.	By Dishonorable Discharge.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.						
Alabama and Tennessee	12	241	....	1	1	....	....	....	2	12	246	....	....	....	2	1	....	19	....	....	....	12	224	....	....	....	$ 3 96	$ 106 43	121 02	....	....	....
California and H. I	15	481	....	7	10	....	4	....	21	15	502	....	....	3	....	56	....	33	....	....	....	92	15	410	5	....	....	16 56	110 65	286 05	31 00	....	....
Colorado	5	133	....	2	1	2	14	2	17	7	150	2	9	....	....	1	1	26	....	3	36	4	114	....	....	....	5 32	32 74	5 42	....	....	....
Connecticut	26	739	....	35	2	....	1	....	38	26	777	....	....	3	6	....	....	15	....	....	....	24	26	753	....	....	....	30 16	33 67	748 75	4 26	....	....
Gulf	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Illinois	71	1840	3	113	1	5	118	8	232	79	2072	....	....	2	4	14	2	160	....	2	180	77	1892	....	3	58	76 80	36 00	730 11	52 60	2	....
Indiana	43	962	....	45	1	5	95	5	141	48	1103	....	....	1	....	1	5	128	....	5	130	43	973	....	....	....	44 05	46 62	....	....	....	....
Iowa	36	753	....	15	1	10	150	10	186	46	939	....	....	....	3	1	5	159	....	5	163	41	776	....	....	....	39 60	55 36	....	....	....	....
Kansas	54	1174	....	34	9	8	107	8	154	62	1328	....	....	4	6	2	3	124	....	3	136	59	1192	4	....	....	52 12	64 19	454 77	25 74	....	....
Kentucky	16	312	1	21	....	....	3	1	24	17	336	....	....	....	1	....	....	25	....	....	26	17	310	....	1	19	11 44	75 86	....	....	....	....
Maine	48	1370	....	29	1	....	16	....	46	48	1416	....	....	3	4	....	2	140	....	2	147	46	1269	....	....	....	51 16	150 73	1013 11	62 21	....	....
Maryland	24	532	....	12	1	....	7	....	20	24	552	....	....	1	2	1	3	80	....	3	84	21	468	....	....	....	18 20	68 00	202 41	10 25	....	....
Massachusetts	125	3936	1	102	13	1	82	2	197	127	4133	....	....	11	33	22	4	344	....	4	410	123	3723	85	....	9	151 84	608 32	6244 19	559 03	11	6
Michigan	41	1096	1	152	....	9	165	10	317	51	1413	....	....	3	....	5	4	270	....	4	278	47	1135	....	1	71	47 84	*85 83	297 97	38 96	4	1
Minnesota	17	454	1	29	....	4	62	5	91	22	545	....	....	1	....	....	1	40	3	1	44	21	501	....	....	....	21 31	....	....	....	....	....
Missouri	30	635	....	11	....	....	29	....	40	30	675	....	....	....	....	1	1	67	1	1	69	29	606	33	....	....	25 40	49 12	327 88	10 00	1	....
Nebraska	19	349	1	23	....	5	85	6	109	25	447	....	....	....	4	....	2	56	....	2	60	23	387	....	1	16	18 24	*26 50	99 66	....	2	....
New Hampshire	19	594	....	16	....	1	23	1	39	20	633	....	....	....	2	....	....	21	....	....	23	20	610	17	....	....	25 32	121 64	597 26	4 50	....	....
New Jersey	27	826	....	25	1	....	8	....	34	27	860	1	12	2	....	2	2	66	....	3	82	24	778	60	....	....	28 80	191 27	1652 85	74 13	....	....
New York	106	3523	3	191	2	5	134	8	327	114	3850	....	....	4	14	12	2	202	....	2	332	112	3518	85	3	68	142 16	322 98	6364 19	100 72	9	1
Ohio	56	1373	3	196	2	13	249	16	447	72	1820	....	....	3	3	2	8	108	....	3	116	69	1704	....	3	60	75 84	164 23	....	....	4	....
Oregon	8	131	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	8	131	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	8	131	....	....	....	5 24	....	....	....	....	....
Pennsylvania	151	6825	4	296	16	1	81	5	393	156	7218	2	30	12	1	11	....	437	....	2	291	154	6727	123	4	80	269 12	186 91	14153 64	2299 41	82	10
Rhode Island	9	292	1	22	9	....	1	1	32	10	324	....	....	1	1	1	1	28	....	1	30	9	294	....	1	16	10 20	32 61	179 57	28 25	....	....
So. Dakota	12	191	....	3	1	....	1	....	5	12	196	....	....	1	4	1	1	17	....	1	23	11	173	....	....	....	6 72	45 10	149 02	....	....	....
Vermont	31	680	....	10	1	2	48	2	59	33	739	....	....	2	1	1	....	45	....	....	49	33	690	....	....	....	29 52	58 69	626 37	....	....	....
Washington	13	257	....	14	1	2	46	2	61	15	318	....	....	1	....	1	3	78	....	3	80	12	238	....	....	....	11 36	76 72	114 29	....	....	....
West Virginia	6	130	....	3	....	....	....	....	3	6	133	....	....	....	....	....	1	42	....	1	42	5	91	....	....	....	3 64	....	....	....	....	....
Wisconsin	18	413	....	19	2	6	135	6	156	24	569	....	....	2	2	3	2	48	....	2	55	22	514	....	.	....	26 96	21 10	245 92	9 72	1	....
Totals	1038	30235	19	1430	76	79	1684	98	3190	1136	33425	5	51	59	93	139	48	1878	4	58	3224	1083	30201	412	17	397	$ 1259 08	$ 2458 89	$35114 45	3310 78	116	18

*Deficit.

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing at date of last report	1,038	30,235
GAIN:	Camps.	Members.
By muster in	19	1,430
By transfer		76
By reinstatement	79	1,684
Total gain	98	3,190
Aggregate	1,136	33,425
LOSS:	Camps.	Members.
By disbandment	5	51
By death		59
By honorable discharge		93
By dishonorable discharge		4
By transfer		139
By suspension	48	2,878
Total loss	53	3,224
Number remaining in good standing Dec. 31, 1898	1,083	30,201

Amount received for per capita tax	$ 1259 08
Cash on hand at Division Headquarters	2458 89
Cash oh hand in Camps	35114 45
Expended by Camps in charity	3310 78

Number of Members Families Relieved ..... 151.
" " Veterans " " ..... 18.

TABLE No. 3.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31 1899.

DIVISION.	NO. IN GOOD STANDING AT DATE OF LAST REPORT		GAIN.						AG'REG'TE		LOSSES.										NO. IN GOOD STANDING.		No. Members Dropped.	No. Mustered during Quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is due.		Amount Received Per Capita Tax.	Cash on hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity, as per Quartermaster Sergeants' Reports.	No. of Members or their Families Relieved.	No. of Veterans or their Families Relieved
			BY MUSTER IN.			BY REINSTAT'MT		TOTAL GAIN			BY DISBANDED					BY SUSPENSION.			TOTAL LOSS												
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By Transfer	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Camps.	Members.	By death.	By Honorable Discharge.	By Transfer.	Camps.	Members.	By Dishonorable Discharge.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.		Camps.	Members.						
Alabama and Tennessee	12	224	....	7	1	.....	.....	.....	8	12	232	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
California and H. I	15	410	....	16	11	....	9	....	36	15	446	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	3	45	....	3	45	9	187	.....	.....	.....	$ 7 48	$ 106 92	97 97	.....	.....	.....
Colorado	4	114	....	3	.....	....	4	....	7	4	121	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	15	369	22	..	.....	15 12	163 92	334 11	14 50	2	1
Connecticut	26	753	1	36	3	....	8	1	47	27	800	1	21	1	10	1	.....	.....	5	....	1	38	26	762	.....	.....	.....	3 92	87 97	19 62	.....	.....	.....
Gulf	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30 20	74 76	709 13	21 75	1	....
Illinois	77	1892	4	208	10	.....	42	4	260	81	2152	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Iodiana	43	973	5	128	2	12	190	17	320	60	1293	.....	.....	4	13	3	7	207	1	7	228	74	1924	.....	4	132	73 36	42	710 50	7 95	.....	....
Iowa	41	776	3	91	1	3	62	6	154	47	930	.....	.....	1	5	.....	5	199	.....	5	205	42	725	.....	3	71	28 64	55 66	24 71	.....	.....	....
Kansas	59	1192	5	140	1	3	87	8	228	67	1420	.....	.....	1	20	1	3	100	..	3	122	64	1298	.....	5	90	48 24	29 73	432 38	25 88	.....	....
Keotucky	17	310	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	17	313	1	12	.....	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	34	16	279	.....	.....	.....	10 84	66 07	.....	.....	.....	....
Maine	46	1269	1	65	5	....	16	1	86	47	1355	.....	.....	.....	2	1	2	90	....	2	93	45	1262	.....	1	15	50 52	145 25	1171 03	12 35	.....	....
Marylaod	21	468	...	18	2	4	57	4	77	25	545	.....	.....	.....	5	4	.....	20	....	.....	29	25	516	.....	.....	.....	23 68	72 08	291 06	10 15	.....	....
Massachusetts	123	3723	2	158	11	2	99	4	268	127	3991	5	72	9	27	16	.....	200	....	5	324	122	3667	54	.....	.....	148 12	589 45	5470 24	344 72	13	10
Michigao	47	1135	....	35	2	4	93	4	130	51	1265	1	71	1	2	2	12	371	....	13	447	38	818	.....	.....	.....	36 44	40 46	361 26	40 76	.....	....
Mionesota	21	501	.....	8	.....	1	10	1	18	22	519	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	52	2	2	55	20	464	.....	.....	.....	17 60	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
Missouri	29	606	1	48	.....	.....	15	1	63	30	669	1	16	.....	2	.....	2	57	....	3	75	27	594	7	1	34	23 00	3 24	515 89	.....	.....	....
Nebraska	23	387	1	21	.....	1	6	2	27	25	414	1	10	1	2	2	9	157	....	10	172	15	242	.....	1	15	9 32	*23 74	133 27	.....	.....	....
New Hampshire	20	610	1	32	.....	.....	4	1	36	21	646	.....	.....	1	3	1	3	74	....	3	79	18	567	.....	1	18	23 08	110 74	542 11	11 80	1	....
New Jersey	24	778	....	27	.....	.....	20	...	47	24	825	.....	.....	1	1	.....	1	23	.....	.....	25	24	800	5	.....	.....	53 92	27 12	1923 12	401 65	6	1
New York	112	3518	3	343	6	3	87	6	436	118	3954	3	49	3	16	5	3	198	1	6	272	112	3682	77	3	73	146 52	272 49	7297 06	140 85	11	3
Ohio	69	1704	....	78	.....	13	213	13	291	82	1995	.....	.....	.....	2	3	6	191	....	6	196	76	1799	20	.....	.....	94 12	111 84	.....	.....	3	1
Oregon	8	131	....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	8	135	1	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	....	1	25	7	110	.....	.....	.....	4 40	33 71	.....	.....	.....	....
Peonsylvaoia	154	6727	....	239	26	....	79	....	344	154	7071	1	.....	11	11	25	.....	328	1	1	371	153	6700	241	.....	.....	271 16	330 77	12204 25	3595 30	131	5
Rhode Island	9	294	....	4	5	....	7	....	16	9	310	.....	.....	1	1	5	.....	10	....	.....	17	9	293	3	.....	.....	11 52	69 00	196 81	14 25	.....	....
So Dakota	11	173	1	52	2	1	13	2	67	13	240	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	13	....	.....	16	13	224	.....	1	47	7 86	71 99	149 67	.....	.....	....
Vermont	33	690	1	33	.....	1	32	2	65	35	755	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	12	....	.....	13	35	742	.....	1	19	31 00	106 39	638 71	4 00	.....	....
Washington	12	238	....	4	1	5	70	5	75	17	313	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2	63	....	2	65	15	248	6	.....	.....	12 72	54 84	240 39	.....	.....	....
West Virgiola	5	91	....	9	.....	2	27	2	36	7	127	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	....	.....	11	7	116	.....	.....	.....	2 664	2 33	172 34	21 00	.....	....
Wiscoosin	22	514	1	37	.....	3	49	4	86	26	600	.....	.....	8	2	...	1	41	....	1	46	25	554	.....	1	17	4 88	89 87	269 43	12 35	.....	....
Totals	1083	30201	30	1847	89	58	1299	88	3235	1171	33436	15	261	39	153	86	63	2678	6	78	3223	1093	30213	435	27	621	$ 1252 00	$ 2667 02	$33896 06	4679 26	168	21

*Deficit.

*23 74

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing at date of last report	1,083	30,201
GAIN:	Camps.	Members.
By muster in	30	1,847
By transfer		89
By reinstatement	58	1,299
Total gain	88	3,235
Aggregate	1,171	33,436
LOSS:	Camps.	Members.
By disbandment	15	261
By death		39
By honorable discharge		153
By dishonorable discharge		6
By transfer		86
By suspension	63	2,678
Total loss	78	3,223
Number remaining in good standing March 31, 1898	1,093	30,213

Amount received for per capita tax	$ 1252 02
Cash on hand at Division Headquarters	2667 00
Cash oh hand in Camps	33896 06
Expended by Camps in charity	4679 26
Number of Members Families Relieved	168.
" " Veterans " "	21.

DIVISION.	NO. IN GOOD STANDING AT DATE OF LAST REPORT		GAIN.						AG'REG'TE		LOSSES.										NO. IN GOOD STANDING.		No. Members Dropped.	No. Mustered during Quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is due.		Amount Received Per Capita Tax	Cash on hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity, as per Quartermaster Sergeants' Reports.	No. of Members or their Families Relieved.	No. of Veterans or their Families Relieved.
			BY MUSTER IN.		By Trausfer	BY REIN-STAT'MT		TOTAL GAIN			BY DIS-BANDED		By death.	By Honorable Discharge.	By Transfer.	BY SUS-PENSION.		By Dishonorable Discharge.	TOTAL LOSS												
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.		Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.								Camps.	Members.		Camps.	Members.						
Alabama and Tennessee..	9	187	....	3	.....	....	.....	....	3	9	190	....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	21	....	.....	22	9	168	.....	.....	.....	$ 6 72				
California and H. I.....	15	369	....	15	3	....	5	....	23	15	392	....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	21	....	.....	25	15	367	7	.....	.....	14 83	$ 53 27	$ 280 06	15 00	.....	.....
Colorado	4	108	1	26	.....	....	10	1	36	5	144	....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	61	....	1	65	4	79	.....	1	15	3 00	8 26	21 43	.....	.....	.....
Connecticut	26	762	....	17	.....	....	3	....	20	26	782	....	.....	.....	8	1	.....	27	....	.....	36	26	746	.....	.....	.....	30 16	100 69	693 13	20 00	.....	.....
Gulf.....	....	....	....	....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Illinois	74	1924	2	114	1	....	56	2	171	76	2095	1	17	2	8	6	5	241	....	6	274	70	1821	.....	2	40	72 88	78 56	1116 70	19 00	2	6
Indiana.....	57	1188	....	88	1	3	58	3	147	60	1335	....	.....	.....	1	.....	23	411	....	23	412	37	923	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44 00	3	1
Iowa.....	42	725	1	41	.....	2	39	3	80	45	805	....	.....	.....	1	.....	18	355	....	18	356	27	449	.....	1	18	18 60	15 59	378 54	.....	.....	.....
Kansas.....	64	1298	1	76	1	....	16	1	93	65	1391	1	10	1	1	.....	30	556	....	31	568	34	823	.....	1	28	31 88	67 93	182 53	3 70	1	.....
Kentucky.....	16	283	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	16	285	....	.....	.....	.....	2	11	200	....	11	202	5	83	.....	.....	.....	2 00	18 66	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maine.....	45	1262	1	76	1	....	10	1	87	46	1349	....	.....	2	2	7	9	230	....	1	241	37	1108	.....	1	21	43 88	135 45	948 26	3 00	.....	.....
Maryland.....	25	516	....	27	8	....	4	....	39	25	555	1	13	1	1	1	3	71	....	4	87	21	468	37	.....	.....	19 60	45 38	338 39	2 25	2	4
Massachusetts	122	3667	....	122	11	....	74	....	207	122	3874	1	10	6	26	19	3	296	1	4	358	118	3516	78	.....	.....	143 60	663 23	4771 19	168 35	8	14
Michigan.....	37	818	1	75	7	3	72	4	154	41	972	....	.....	1	2	1	7	227	....	7	231	34	741	5	1	16	31 83	1 40	396 96	70 56	.....	.....
Minnesota.....	20	464	....	21	.....	2	35	2	56	22	520	....	.....	.....	8	5	7	183	....	7	196	15	324	.....	.....	.....	14 36	45 99	280 62	.....	3	4
Missouri.....	27	694	.....	15	.....	....	6	....	21	27	615	....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	44	....	.....	48	27	567	.....	.....	.....	22 92	11 92	943 35	22 00	.....	.....
Nebraska.	15	242	1	22	3	5	74	6	99	21	341	....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	11	....	.....	15	21	326	.....	2	35	15 00	28 94	142 76	.....	.....	.....
New Hampshire.....	18	567	....	26	.....	....	1	....	27	13	594	....	.....	1	5	5	2	53	2	2	66	16	528	.....	.....	.....	21 12	126 43	595 22	6 50	.....	.....
New Jersey.	24	800	....	55	1	....	11	....	67	24	867	....	.....	4	.....	.....	1	41	....	1	45	23	822	3	.....	.....	35 84	74 62	1152 98	349 27	5	1
New York.....	112	3682	....	127	5	....	39	....	171	112	3853	3	47	5	16	4	31	1055	1	34	1128	78	2725	19	.....	.....	109 84	227 70	7202 70	32 00	8	.....
Ohio.....	79	1799	2	86	2	1	21	3	109	82	1908	....	.....	1	1	1	.....	75	....	.....	75	82	1830	.....	2	42	74 04	5 31	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oregon.....	7	110	.....	11	.....	....	.....	....	11	7	121	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	67	....	4	67	3	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pennsylvania.....	153	6700	1	335	8	....	118	1	461	154	7161	5	74	8	4	4	15	657	....	20	747	134	6414	213	1	19	260 52	277 20	1153 69	2963 35	62	.....
Rhode Island.....	9	293	....	12	3	....	7	....	22	9	315	....	.....	2	1	3	.....	17	....	.....	23	9	292	10	.....	.....	12 44	91 75	188 99	.....	.....	.....
So Dakota.....	13	224	1	23	.....	....	.....	1	23	14	247	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	14	247	.....	.....	.....	8 76	26 63	193 11	11 10	.....	.....
Vermont	35	742	....	18	.....	....	5	....	23	35	765	1	22	2	2	1	2	31	....	3	108	32	657	.....	.....	.....	26 48	63 87	612 62	14 38	.....	.....
Washington.....	15	248	....	14	2	2	54	2	70	17	318	....	.....	1	.....	.....	7	110	....	7	111	10	207	.....	.....	.....	10 44	33 46	89 31	10 00	.....	.....
West Virginia.....	7	116	1	29	.....	....	3	1	32	8	148	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	61	....	4	61	4	87	3	1	20	3 43	17 90	94 18	.....	.....	.....
Wisconsin.....	25	552	1	27	1	2	40	3	68	28	622	....	.....	.....	2	1	5	113	....	5	122	23	500	.....	1	16	20 36	80 32	154 89	10 37	3	.....
Totals.....	1095	30242	14	1501	60	20	761	34	2322	1129	32564	13	193	38	98	69	188	5290	4	201	5692	928	26372	375	14	207	$ 1089 96	$ 2305 68	$21931 65	3765 43	97	30

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing at date of last report	1,095	30,242
GAIN:	Camps.	Members.
By muster in	14	1,501
By transfer		60
By reinstatement	20	761
Total gain	34	2,322
Aggregate	1,129	32,564
LOSS:	Camps.	Members.
By disbandment	13	193
By death		38
By honorable discharge		98
By dishonorable discharge		4
By transfer		69
By suspension	188	5,290
Total loss	201	5,692
Number remaining in good standing June 30, 1899	928	26,872

Amount received for per capita tax	$ 1089 96
Cash on hand at Division Headquarters	2298 96
Cash on hand in Camps	21931 65
Expended by Camps in charity	3765 43
Number of Members Families Relieved	97.
" " Veterans " "	30.

TABLE No. 5.

RECAPITULATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS.

GAIN.	By Muster.		By Transfer.	By Reinstatement.	
	Camps.	Members.	Members.	Camps.	Members.
September Quarter, 1898	22	1,188	49	44	1,086
December Quarter, 1898	19	1,430	76	79	1,684
March Quarter, 1899	30	1,847	89	58	1,299
June Quarter, 1899	14	1,498	60	20	761
Aggregate	85	5,963	274	201	4,930

LOSS.	By Disbanded.		By Death.	By Hon. Discharge.	By Transfer.	By Suspension.		By Dish. Discharge.
	Camps.	Members.	Members.	Members.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Members.
September Quarter, 1898	5		55	81	62	153	4,632	1
December Quarter, 1898	5	51	59	93	139	48	2,878	4
March Quarter, 1899	15	261	39	153	84	64	2,655	6
June Quarter, 1899	13	193	37	98	69	188	5,269	4
Aggregate	38	505	190	425	354	453	15,434	15

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing June 30, 1898	1,135	32,617
Total Gain	286	11,167
Aggregate	1,421	43,784
Total Loss	491	16,923
Number in good standing, June 30, 1899	930	26,861
Number mustered since June 30, 1899 (new Camps)	14	248
Total membership, Sept. 4, 1899	944	27,109

Division of the Gulf not represented in any of these reports.

Division of Alabama and Tennessee not represented in report of June 30, 1899.

Table No. 6.

Roster of Division Commanders, For the Year 1899-1900.

DIVISION.	COMMANDER.	ADDRESS.
Ala. and Tenn.	W. F. BOLIN,	Birmingham, Ala.
California,	HARRY T. MOORE,	71 Stevenson St., San Francisco.
Colorado,	GEO. S. MILONE,	Colorado Springs.
Connecticut,	EDSON S. BISHOP,	Norwich.
Gulf,	C. W. DALE,	329 S. Liberty St., New Orleans, La.
Illinois,	WILL C. SCHNEIDER,	Kankakee.
Indiana,	H. O. P. CLINE,	Jonesboro.
Iowa,	WILL A. BROWN,	Marshalltown.
Kansas,	L. B. PRICE,	Mulvane.
Kentucky,	ALEX. HAMILTON,	Newport.
Maine,	EDWARD H. SMITH,	Westbrook.
Maryland,	GEO. S. WHITMORE,	807 First St., N.W., Washington.
Massachusetts,	GEO. N. HOWARD,	Melrose Highlands.
Michigan,	C. J. POST,	Lock Box 151, Grand Rapids.
Minnesota,	A. O. ALLEN,	Wells.
Missouri,	BEN. PRACK,	101 N. Broadway, St. Louis.
Nebraska,	J. HOWARD HEINE,	Hooper.
New Hampshire,	ERNEST B. FOLSOM,	Dover.
New Jersey,	GEO. H. BAILEY,	125 N. Penn'a Ave., Atlantic City.
New York,	RALPH SHELDON,	33 State St., Albany.
Ohio,	A. E. B. STEPHENS,	Lincoln Inn Court, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Oregon,	ELMER HARDESTY,	Silverton.
Pennsylvania,	SAM'L S. HORN,	Easton.
Rhode Island,	FRED. E. CARPENTER,	47 Washington St., Providence.
So. Dakota,	W. A. MORRIS,	Redfield.
Vermont,	IRA E. MORSE,	Cambridge.
Washington,	CHARLES E. PLIMPTON,	Seattle.
W. Virginia,	JOHN W. MCCLUNG,	Grafton.
Wisconsin,	A. G. BRABAND,	306 Broadway, Milwaukee.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General,
Chicago, Ill.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U.S.A.
84 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.

Table No. 7.

Showing Charter Applications Approved and Number of Applicants.

Division.	Applications Approved. No. of Camps.	No. of Applicants.
Alabama and Tennessee		
California	1	32
Colorado	1	20
Connecticut	1	15
Gulf		
Illinois	11	318
Indiana	8	167
Iowa	4	87
Kansas	6	142
Kentucky	1	17
Maine	2	35
Maryland		
Massachusetts	4	82
Michigan	2	87
Minnesota	1	17
Missouri	1	34
Nebraska	4	82
New Hampshire	3	64
New Jersey		
New York	15	380
Ohio	3	51
Oregon	2	43
Pennsylvania	12	244
Rhode Island	2	41
So. Dakota	3	50
Vermont	3	75
Washington		
W. Virginia	2	42
Wisconsin	2	37
Totals	94	2,152

Table No 8.

List of Furniture Belonging to the Department of the Commander-in-Chief and Adjutant-General.

2 Cabinet Desks.
1 Letter File Case.
2 Office Desk Chairs.
1 Typewriter Table.
1 Letter Press and Stand.
2 Seals.
National Commandery Guidons, with Box.
1 Charter Lithograph Stone.
1 Case Embroidered Corps Marks.
1 Book Case.
1 Typewriter Cabinet.
1 Office Stool.
6 Office Chairs.
1 Card Index Case.
1 Yost Typewriter.
1 Stand of Colors.
1 Headquarters Trunk.
1 High Bookkeeper's Desk.
1 Document Filing Case and Base.
Books of Record.

Portraits of Merrill, Abbott, Griffin, Webb, Hall, Maccabe, Bundy, Russell, Rake and Darling, and group of Past Commanders.

GENERAL ORDERS.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 4 } CHICAGO, ILL., Sept. 26, 1898.

I. Having been duly elected and installed Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., for the ensuing year, by the action of the Seventeenth Annual Encampment held at Omaha, Neb., Sept 12 to 14, 1898. I hereby assume command and establish headquarters at Room No. 7, 84 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.

II The following officers were duly elected by the Seventeenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, and installed, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: —

Commander-in-Chief, Frank L. Shepard, 84 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.; Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Geo. E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.; Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Z. C Green, White, S.Dak.; Council-in-Chief, H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.: J. E. Haycraft, Madelia, Minn, and J. D. Rowen, Des Moines, Iowa; Quartermaster-General, Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston, Mass.

III. Pursuant to the action of the Commandery-in-Chief the next annual Encampment will be held at Detroit, Mich., the date thereof to be designated by the Council-in-Chief.

IV The following appointments as staff officers of the Commandery-in-Chief are hereby promulgated: —

Adjutant-General, Geo. B. Abbott, Room 7, 84 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.; Inspector-General, F W. Briggs, Shickshinny, Pa, Judge Advocate-General, James W. Nocl, Indianapolis, Ind.

V. Past Division Commander William G. Dustin, Dwight, Ill., and Past Captain Clark J. Tisdel, Chicago, Ill., are hereby detailed as personal aides to the Commander-in-Chief.

VI. In order to properly carry on and expedite the transaction of official business the following should be carefully observed: Communications to the Commander-in-Chief or Adjutant-General to be addressed to Room 7, 84 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.; all reports to be addressed to George B. Abbott, Adjutant-General; all remittances for charter fees and *per capita* tax must be sent to George B. Abbott, Adjutant-General, by draft on Chicago or New York or Chicago post-office or express money orders; all requisitions for supplies and remittances therefor must be sent to Quartermaster-General Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston, Mass., such remittances to be made payable to him and paid him by draft on Boston or New York or postoffice or express money orders.

VII. In compliance with a resolution adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief a special decoration is to be designed for members of the Order who enlisted and served in Spanish-American war of 1898; names of all such are also to be placed upon a roll of honor to be prepared by the Commander-in-Chief. To the end that the foregoing may be carried out at the earliest possible date the Camps are directed to prepare and forward through their respective Division Commanders a list of members showing record in the Order and date of enlistment and service in the war of our country. The glorious record of our army and navy has renewed the supreme confidence we have entertained in our government, and commanded the admiration of other countries in the strength, intelligence and loyalty of our people. The fact that our membership has taken no mean part in the splendid achievements of this eventful year is cause sufficient for our increasing pride in our government and in them, and should prompt us to welcome them back to the Camp and an active participation in its work.

VIII A new one-degree ritual, with long form to be used by the Camp when desired, was adopted by the Commandery-in-Chief, to go into effect on Jan. 1, 1899, and replace the three-degree ritual now in use. The arrangements for the exchange of rituals will be announced in a later order.

By command of

FRANK L SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

CHICAGO, ILL., Oct. 28th, 1898.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 5.

I. The following appointments as Staff officers of the Commandery-in-Chief are hereby promulgated:

To be Surgeon-General, F. H. B. McDowell, M. D., Racine, Wis.
To be Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. A. J. Morris, South Frankfort, Mich.
To be Assistant-Adjutant-General, A. L. Guilford, Chicago, Ill.
To be Assistant-Quartermaster-General, Thomas J. Hannon, Boston, Mass.

II. There were but two constitutional changes adopted at the recent Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief at Omaha, Article XXV. Sec. 1, page 78, C. R. & R., was amended to provide that the bond of the Quartermaster-General should be fixed at $5,000.00, and should be an Assurance Company bond.

An additional section (5) was added to Article III, page 53, C. R. & R., as follows:

"SECTION 5. The dues of Brothers who serve in the army and navy of the United States in time of war, may be remitted by the camps of which they are members during the time they are in the service, and while so remitted, Camps and Divisions shall not be required to pay per capita tax on such members. The names of all Brothers whose dues are remitted shall be reported in the quarterly return, together with the time during which said remission is to continue."

The question of having this section retro-active, was raised at the time of its adoption but the encampment took no action to that effect. It is therefore promulgated to take effect with the quarter commencing October 1, 1898. The Commander-in-Chief decides that he is unauthorized to order this section effective prior to this date, as the Commandery-in-Chief itself failed to do so when its attention was called to it, and for the further reason that many Camps have already made their September reports and to secure the necessary information would cause delay and in some cases a suspension. In this connection it is ordered that Division Commanders shall require Camps to pay the usual per capita tax on all members in good standing for the Quarter ending Sept. 30, 1898, but thereafter shall remit the per capita tax on all members serving in the U. S. army or navy until discharged from said service, or peace is declared. To secure the remission, Division Commanders will require Camps to furnish the name, address, and date of muster into Camp; and the date of muster into the U. S. service, Company and Regiment or Ship; rank (if any) and location; and will require their Adjutants to carefully scrutinize such reports to see that brothers so reported were in good standing in the Order at the time of muster into the U. S. service. A copy of these lists must be furnished to the Adjutant-General before January 1, 1899, that all such names may be added to the Roll of Honor which is to be published in the proceedings of the recent National Encampment, and these lists should include also the names, etc., of those who have served in the recent Spanish-American war who may not now be in the service. The publication of the names, name and number of camp, rank in camp and rank in the service of the U. S. of every member of the order who volunteered in defence of our Country in the late war, is mandatory upon the Adjutant-General, and Division Commanders must forward the necessary information. These lists are required also for estimating the probable number of volunteers from our Order, for intelligently providing for the following, which was also adopted by the recent Encampment.

III. Having been authorized by the Seventeenth Annual Encampment "to have prepared a medal of honor to be placed upon the price list of supplies and furnished by the Divisions to the soidiers who have served in the U. S. army, and the sailors who have served in the navy in the late Spanish War, who are members of this Order," it is hoped that Division Commanders will furnish these headquarters with an approximation of the number of medals they will probably require.

IV. The headquarters of the Division of Connecticut have been removed from Wallingford to Room 25, Wilcox Block, Meriden, Conn.

V. The instructions printed on the inspection blanks, together with those issued by the last Administration, seemed quite sufficient for the present inspection without publishing additional ones at this time, especially in view of the fact that a new Ritual is soon to go into use.

VI. Division Commanders will see to it that Camps are prompt in sending in quarterly reports. Camps have become very negligent in this particular, and as reports will be expected promptly at these headquarters it will be necessary for Commanders to be very diligent in securing prompt returns from Camps.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

Since last publication, applications for charters have been approved, and camps mustered as follows:

DATE.	NO. CAMP.	LOCATION.	DIVISION.	NO. OF APPLICANTS.	DATE OF MUSTER.	NO. MUSTERED.
Aug. 29		Mitchell	So. Dakota	26		
Sept. 2		Peru	Nebraska	16		
" 3	29	Alcester	So. Dakota	16	Sept. 3	16
" 6	19	Leesburg	Ohio	16	" 6	16
	6	Hamilton	Ohio		" 6	23
" 7	15	Blaine	Washington	20	" 7	20
" 7	18	Puyallup	"	15	" 7	15
" 17	400	Freeport	Illinois	62	" 23	62
" 17	116	Peru	"	19	Oct. 4	19
" 21	145	Rome	New York	43	Sept. 30	43
" 30	32	Carthage	"	15	Oct. 6	15
" 30	12	Presidio	California	32	" 6	32
ct. 7		Wilson	New York	42		
" 3	26	Greensprings	Ohio	19		
" 10	47	Geneseo	Illinois	25		
" 24		Roaring Springs	Pennsylvania	21		
" 24	5	Canandaigua	New York	36		
" 25		Newport	Kentucky	17		

Total applicants, 440; total mustered, 262; total camps approved, 17; total camps mustered, 10.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 24, 1898.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 6.

I. The following details and assignments as Assistant Inspectors General have been made by Inspector General Forrest W. Briggs and approved by the Commander-in-Chief. Instructions have been issued and faithful performance of the duty assigned is expected from each brother:

DIVISION.	ASST. INSPECTOR GEN.	RANK.	ADDRESS.
Ala. and Tenn.	W. B. Cooper	Past Division Com.	Knoxville, Tenn.
California	Frank C. Shipley	" " "	San Francisco, Cal.
Colorado	Harlan Thomas	" " "	Denver, Col.
Connecticut	George E. Cox	Sr. Vice C.-in-C.	Hartford, Conn.
Gulf	Josiah Gross	Past Div. Com.	New Orleans, La.
Illinois	James B. Lidders	Past Capt.	Rock Island, Ill.
Indiana:			
Q. M. Hdqrs.	Geo. C. Harvey	Past Div. Com.	Danville, Ind.
Comdrs. Hdqrs.	Frank L. Shepard	Com. in C.	Chicago, Ill.
Iowa	James D. Rowen	C'ncil-in-C.	Des Moines, Ia.
Kansas	W. Y Morgan	Past Div. Com.	Hutchinson, Kas.
Kentucky	T Z. Morrow, Jr.	" " "	Somerset, Ky.
Maine	Fred E Bolton	Q. M. General	Boston, Mass.
Maryland	H. H. Hammer	C'ncil-in-Chief	Reading, Pa.
Massachusetts	Arthur B. Spink	Past Division Com.	Providence, R. I.
Michigan	G. B. Abbott	Adjutant General	Chicago, Ill.
Minnesota	J. E. Haycraft	C'ncil-in-Chief	Madelia, Minn.
Missouri:			
Comdrs Hdqrs.	Fred E. Ernst	Past Div. Com.	St. Joseph, Mo.
Q. M. Hdqrs.	R. Loebenstein	" " "	Warrensburg, Mo.
Nebraska	Moses P. O'Brien	" " "	Omaha, Nebraska
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	James Lewis Rake	Past C.-in-C.	Reading, Pa.
New York	Dr. L. H. Hendee	Division Surgeon	Palmer, Mass.
Ohio	Don C Cable	Past Div. Com.	Nelsonville, Ohio
Oregon			
Pennsylvania:			
Com. & Adjt. Hdqrs.	F. W. Briggs	Inspector Gen.	Shickshinny, Pa.
Q. M. Hdqrs.	Jas. M. Mathews	Division Com.	Trenton, New Jersey
Rhode Island	Leonard C Couch	" "	Taunton, Mass.
South Dakota	Z. C. Green	Jr. Vice C.-in-C.	White, South Dakota
Vermont	E T. Griswold	Past Division Com.	Bennington, Vt.
Washington	Harry Rosenhaupt	" " "	Spokane, Wash.
West Virginia			
Wisconsin	Rev. W. J. Patton	Past Division Com.	Marinette, Wis.

II. The new ritual authorized by the last Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief will be ready for distribution January 1, 1899, and will be furnished free in exchange for the present rituals to such camps as make reports and are in good standing for the quarter ending December 31, 1898. Each camp is permitted to have five rituals. Division Commanders will direct their Camp Commanders to forward to Division headquarters the five rituals which their respective camps have, sealed and with postage prepaid as first class matter, enclosing an equal amount of stamps for prepaying the postage on the new rituals. Division Commanders, upon receiving the old rituals from camps, will detach pages 35 and 37, and forward the same, sealed, to the Quartermaster General, and destroy the remainder of the ritual. Upon receipt by the Adjutant General of the consolidated reports and per capita tax from the several Division headquarters, the Quartermaster General will supply the Division Commanders with the requisite number of rituals for their respective Divisions, free, for only such camps as have promptly made reports and paid per capita tax and are in good standing for the quarter ending December 31, 1898.

III. The attention of Division Commanders is again earnestly directed to the following, especially to the manner of making remittances:

"Communications to the Commander-in-Chief or Adjutant General to be addressed to Room 7, 84 LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill., all reports to be addressed to G. B. Abbott, Adjutant General; all remittances for charter fees and per capita tax must be sent to G. B. Abbott, Adjutant-

General, by draft on Chicago or New York or Chicago postoffice or express money orders; all requisitions for supplies and remittances therefor must be sent to Quartermaster General, Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston, Mass., such remittances to be made payable to him and paid him by draft on Boston or New York or postoffice or express money orders."

IV. The attention of Division Commanders is earnestly directed to the supplies they should have on hand at headquarters. At this time of the year, when the organization of new camps should be in active operation, there should be enough supplies on hand at Division headquarters to make up camp packets promptly. The Quartermaster General is not required to provide camp packets. In view of the fact that at this time of the year the Quartermaster General is estimating and ordering supplies for the ensuing year Commanders are requested to send in their requisitions at once for such supplies as are believed will be required to last them through the remaining months of their respective administrations.

V. The bonds of the Quartermaster General and the Commander-in-Chief have been duly approved by the Council-in-Chief, and are now in the possession of the chairman thereof.

VI. Division Commanders will call the attention of camps to the necessity of commencing early preparations for the proper observance of Union Defenders' Day, February 12. Our order has been invited by the National Monument Committee, which is organized for the erection of a national memorial to the dead heroes of the Cuban battlefields and the Martyrs of the Maine, to hold special services in connection with that worthy and loyal cause, and your Commander-in-Chief believes it wise and fitting that these services should be observed in connection with Union Defenders' day, and to that end appropriate suggestions will be issued by the Chaplain-in-Chief through proper channels to the various camps of the order. It is hoped that the order will enter into the spirit of these memorial services with that true loyalty, fervor and enthusiasm, which has ever characterized the spirit of the organization in its efforts to pay tribute to our country's defenders. Mark well the date and prepare to make a record of which all may be justly proud.

VII. The attention of Division Commanders is again directed to the preparing of the roll of honor of those members of the order who served in the Spanish-American war, referred to in section 2, General Order No. 5, current series. Let these rolls be carefully and promptly prepared and forwarded to the Adjutant General.

VIII. Past Judge Advocate General E. K. Gould has prepared a digest of the opinions and decisions of the various Commanders-in-Chief and Judge Advocates General. This work, which costs but a nominal sum, was commended by the recent National Encampment as a creditable compilation and officers and members of the order were urged to procure it. With a copy of this digest in the camp room, many doubtful questions can be quickly and satisfactorily determined, many erroneous rulings avoided and much correspondence with the Division and Commandery-in-Chief headquarters concerning constitutional points will become unecessary. These books can be procured through the Division Quartermaster from the Quartermaster General.

IX. Parsons O. Hardy, of Camp No. 117, Division of Massachusetts, was court-martialed on charges of "violation of obligation given at time of muster and at time of assuming office," of "disobedience to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the order," and of "conduct unbecoming a member of the order in his relations to the order." Found guilty and sentence of suspension from the order for one year from October 20, 1898, approved. Proper record will be made on black books.

Charles D. Henry, of Camp No. 28, Division of Illinois, was court-martialed on charges of "conduct unbecoming a member of the order in his relations to the order," and of "disobedience to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the order." Found guilty and sentence of dishonorable discharge approved. Proper record will be made on black books.

X. Commanders of Divisions will require the several installing

officers to furnish duplicate reports of installations on Form 23 to the Adjutant General through the Division Adjutant. In case no duplicate is made at the time of the installation, the Division Adjutant should be required to make a duplicate report for the Adjutant General.

XI. Division Commanders will require mustering officers of camps, in making out their reports, to write the names of those mustered very legibly and accurately to guard against errors in the writing of charters. In every case the charter fee should accompany the application for approval, and the application should also be returned with the mustering officer's report to the Adjutant General after the camp has been mustered.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant General.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 25, 1899.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 1.

I. Circular No. 1, of the Chaplain-in-Chief, is hereby authorized and promulgated.

II. There accompanies herewith suggestions for a memorial service from the National Monument Committee for the commemoration of the heroes who perished in the recent war with Spain and the martyrs of the Maine, together with a roll for the insertion of the names (and amounts) of those who may be disposed to contribute towards the advancement of this worthy cause. In case for want of time or any other reason, the camps may deem it advisable to hold a special service from that of Defenders' Day, the same will be entirely proper. However, what services may be held should be carefully recorded and prepared by some person selected by the camp competent to do so, and forwarded through the Division headquarters to the Adjutant General, together with the roll of contributors and amounts. Not only were a large percentage of the volunteers who recently responded for the defense of the country at the call of the president in our war with Spain sons of Union soldiers, but members of our organization, and it is to be hoped, and indeed it is urgently desired, that the order of the Sons of Veterans should make a prompt and vigorous response to the request of this committe.e The objects of our order, the principles upon which it is founded, and the earnestness of our work in the cause of Loyalty, can be no more positively demonstrated or clearly impressed upon our countrymen than by a hearty and loyal response in commemorating the heroism of our brothers and their comrades. It is to be hoped that no Camp in the Order will fail to take some action or be placed upon record in this matter. Concerning any contributions made by brothers, while not called upon to contribute largely towards this monumental fund, they may secure help among their more favored friends and acquaintances, and the names of the contributors will be placed upon record and deposited in a proper receptacle with the tributes and record services held and preserved forever for posterity. Such contributions should be secured through the three elective officers of the camp, acting as a committee for that purpose, or by a committee of prominent and well known citizens who will act with them. The total amounts secured should be forwarded in one draft, express or postoffice order, made payable to the Division Commander, who will forward the same in bulk to the Quartermaster General, Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston, Mass. Owing to the brief time Division Commanders will realize the importance of forwarding this order, accompanied by the circulars of the National Monument Committee, immediately to the Camps of their respective Divisions.

III. The following Division Encampments are announced: That of Rhode Island at Woonsocket, Feb. 7; that of New Jersey at Camden, Feb. 15 and 16; that of Massachusetts at Boston, Feb. 21 and 22.

IV. The names of the Past Commanders-in-Chief, Grand Division Commanders and Division Commanders, as well as those delegates who attended the last National Encampment, have heretofore been upon the special mailing list of the Adjutant General. Accompanying the last General Order issued from these headquarters was a request for the correct address and the name, number and location of the Camps of which these respective brothers are members in good standing. Many responses have been received by the Adjutant General, and it is construed that those who failed to respond do not care to receive the Orders, circulars or official documents which may be issued from these headquarters. However, those acknowledging the receipt of the last Order or this one will be continued upon the mailing list.

V. Many camps have neglected to report the names of their members who served in the recent Spanish-American war to be placed upon the roll of honor soon to be issued from these headquarters. It is essential that the honor and reputation of the order shall be sustained and

no Camp Commander fulfills his obligation given at the time of his installation unless he sees to it that every member of his camp who is entitled to this honor should receive it, and every Division Commander must require each Camp Commander to report and at once, in compliance with the latter part of Sec. II, of General Order No. 5, series of 1898.

VI. Carlisle R. Clarke, of John A. Logan Camp, No. 25, Division of Illinois, and former Division Commander, was court-martialed on charges of "disobedience of the constitution, rules and regulations" and "Conduct unbecoming a member of the order in his relations to the order." Found guilty, and sentence of dishonorable discharge approved, Proper record will be made upon black books.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant General

CHICAGO, ILL., May 10, 1899.

GENERAL ORDER
No. 2
Series 1899.

On February 5, 1899, Col. James A. Sexton, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, died at Washington, D. C., while serving as a member of the War Investigating Committee appointed by the President of the United States.

Commander-in-Chief Sexton rendered faithful and distinguished service as a soldier during the great civil war, and during the intervening years has borne an honorable and prominent citizenship under the Government which he had helped to maintain. His exalted patriotism and fervent loyalty, his earnest heart, though genial and kind, were conspicuous among those rare qualities that made him near and dear to all.

Our Order mourns with the Grand Army which he so worthily led.

I. Circular No. 2, of the Chaplain-in-Chief, is hereby authorized and promulgated.

II. The following Commanders of Division have been elected since last General Orders:

Rhode Island, Frederic E. Carpenter, Providence.
New Jersey, George H. Bailey, Atlantic City.
Connecticut, Edson S. Bishop, Norwich.
Massachusetts, Geo. N. Howard, Melrose Highlands.
Nebraska, J. Howard Heine, Hooper.
New Hampshire, Ernest B. Folsom, Dover.
W. Virginia, Jno. W. McClung, Grafton.
Kansas, L. B. Price, Mulvane.

III. The following Division Encampments are announced;

Alabama and Tenn. May 10 and 11, Rockwood, Tennessee.
Missouri, May 11 and 12, Kirksville.
Illinois, May 15, 16 and 17, Danville.
Kentucky, May 15 and 16, Newport.
Wisconsin, May 16, 17 and 18, Milwaukee.
Maryland and D. C. May 22 and 23, Washington, D. C.
California, June 5, San Francisco.
South Dakota, June 7, 8 and 9. Hot Springs.
Indiana, June 7, 8 and 9, Shelbyville.
Pennsylvania, June 13, 14 and 15, Hazelton.
Iowa, June 14 and 15, Waterloo.
Maine, June 14 and 15, Bucksport.
Oregon, June 21, 22 and 23.
Washington, June 21, 22, 23 and 24, Seattle.
New York, June 27 and 28, Utica.
Ohio, July 6 and 7, Columbus.

IV. The Commanders of the following Divisions only have provided these headquarters with the Roll of Honor, (members of our Order who enlisted for the Spanish-American war,) of their respective Divisions, and in many instances, these are incomplete. Nothing can be done towards providing a "Service Badge," or publishing the Roll, until the delinquent Divisions furnish the necessary information: Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin and Colorado.

V. The proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, (Omaha,) have been published and can be procured from the Quartermaster General, Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont

Building, Boston, Mass., through Division headquarters, forwarding ten cents each for postage. Members of the Omaha Encampment may order direct sending the requisite postage.

VI. Several Divisions are still delinquent in forwarding reports due the Adjutant General, the Inspector General and the Surgeon General. Division Councils and installing officers of Divisions, should see to it that ALL reports and the Roll of Honor have been forwarded to the Commandery-in-Chief officers before the retiring Commander and his staff are relieved from duty and the Commander elect installed.

VII. Such Divisions as have not yet adopted by-laws for the government of their respective Divisions, should not fail to do so at the coming Encampment, and submit the same for approval. The by-laws of the following Divisions only are on file at these headquarters: Connecticut, Kentucky, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey. New York, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Washington, Rhode Island and Nebraska.

VIII. The Commander of the Division of Oregon, (A. Q. Desart,) having left that Division without leave of absence, and his whereabouts being unknown, by special order from these headquarters, Junior Vice Commander, Walter Ross, of Eugene, Oregon, has been placed in full command until the meeting of the coming Division Encampment when the Division Council will elect a Commander to complete the official year.

IX. Reuben Schwarts, of Thomas J. Stewart Camp, No. 72, Division of Pennsylvania, was tried by Court Martial, on charges of "violation of obligation" and "misappropriating camp funds," found guilty, and sentence of dishonorable discharge approved.

Harry T. Wheeler, of Greble Camp No. 10, Division of Pennsylvania, was tried by Court-Martial, on the charge of "conduct unbecoming a member in his relations to the order," found guilty, and sentence of dishonorable discharge approved.

Wm. A. Teeter, af Meade Camp No. 46, Division of Ohio, was tried by Court-Martial on the charge of "committing a scandalous crime against the law of the land," found guilty, and sentence of dishonorable discharge approved.

J. Griffin Westbrook, of Tappen Camp No. 1, Division of New York, was tried by Court-Martial on the charge of "committing a scandalous crime against the law of the land," found guilty, and sentence of dishonorable discharge approved. Proper record of the foregoing will be made upon black books.

X. W. E. Clark, Camp No. 202, of Manistique, Division of Michigan, is hereby given honorable mention and the thanks of the Commander-in-Chief, for its contribution of $40.84, in response to his request on behalf of the National Monumental Committee. This fund is for the purpose of erecting a monument to those who died for the honor of our country in the war for humanity against Spain and among whom were many members of our Order and it is the intention that the Sons of Veterans shall have a special tablet on which shall be either our badge or coat-of arms. This Camp was the first—and so far as these headquarters are informed—the ONLY one to respond. It is anxiously hoped that this worthy example will soon be followed by others.

XI. Retiring Division Commanders will please call the attention of their respective successors to Sec. 7, Art. VII, Chapter V, Page 61, C. R. & R., and also inform them of the law which requires a 50-cent documentary revenue stamp attached to such bond to make it valid.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

GEO. B. ABBOTT,

Adjutant General.

Since last publication, applications for charters have been approved, and camps mustered as follows:

DATE.	CAMP NO	LOCATION.	DIVISION.	NO. OF APLICANTS.	DATE OF MUSTER.	NO. MUSTERED.
1898						
Nov. 7	9	Shubert	Nebraska	16	Oct. 21	16
" 15	156	Sciota	Pennsylvania	22	Nov. 19	16
" 25	34	Coats	Kansas	19	Jan. 9	16
" 28	3	East Barre	Vermont	24	July 21	18
" 29	157	Oceola Mills	Pennsylvania	15	Dec. 12	14
Dec. 2	65	Corning	New York	19	" 21	21
" 17	55	Weldon	Illinois	16	" 23	15
" 21	97	Coatesville	Pennsylvania	28	" 2	28
" 28	72	Centralia	Illinois	28	Feb. 15	58
" 28	10	Laconia	N. Hampshire	26	Jan. 2	17
" 28	28	Poy Sippi	Wisconsin	19	" 20	17
1899						
Jan. 2	305	Elwood	Indiana	25	" 15	22
" 19	20	Wells River	Vermont	19	" 21	19
" 2	29	Poughkeepsie	New York	19	Dec. 13	19
" 7	248	Camp McKinzie	(Georgia)Mich.	71	" 25	71
" 26	10	Flandreau	So. Dakota	29	Feb. 17	46
" 27	203	Manlius	New York	26	Jan. 18	22
" 28	16	Pascoag	Rhode Island	19	Feb. 4	16
Feb. 3	129	Haverhill	Massachusetts	15	Mar. 1	16
" 10	30	Newton	Kansas	27	Apr. 4	20
" 17	86	Stoneham	Massachusetts	21	Jan. 24	21
" 18	11	Churchville	New York	16	Feb. 28	19
" 22	270	Elnora	Indiana	22	Mar. 9	18
Mar. 1	25	Clifton	Ohio	17	" 18	27
" 3	53	Canaan	Connecticut	15	" 30	15
" 4	27	Guilford	Maine	16	" 18	15
" 16	306	Osgood	Indiana	20	" 23	22
" 21	287	New Hartford	Iowa	15	Feb. 23	15
" 21	288	Waterloo	"	33	" 27	33
" 21	4	The Dalles	Oregon	23	May	23
" 21	308	Scipio	Indiana	16		
" 22	73	Findlay	Illinois	20	Mar. 25	17
" 22	182	Hamilton	Indiana	18		
" 23	309	Augusta	"	22	Apr. 15	18
" 27	76	Leigh	Nebraska	16	" 8	15
Apr. 7	153	Milford	Iowa	21	Mar. 4	21
" 8	62	Republic	Missouri	34	" 31	34
" 10	68	Cedar Vale	Kansas	29	Apr. 17	19
" 13	17	Monson	Maine	19		
" 15	326	Fairmount Sprngs	Pennsylvania	18		
" 18	249	Dowagiac	Michigan	16		
" 24	221	Little Falls	New York	41	Apr. 21	41
" 27	327	Williamsport	Pennsylvania	17		
" 27	31	Iola	Kansas	16	Apr. 22	16
" 27	38	Coldwater	"	30	" 29	20
" 27	14	Walnut Grove	Minnesota	17		
" 29	100	Chicago	Illinois	57	Apr. 29	57
May 4		Springfield	So. Dakota	16		
" 6	191	Dundee	New York	21		
" 8	79	Morrisville	" "	17		
" 9	3	Danville	Illinois	32		
" 9	119	Hooper	Nebraska	16		
" 10	154	Herman	"	34		
" 10	3	Freemont	Wisconsin	18		

Total applicants, 1,241: total camps approved, 45.
Total mustered, including former approvals, 1,113.
Total camps mustered, including former approvals, 48.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 21, 1899.

GENERAL ORDER
No. 3
Series 1899

I. Death has once again invaded the ranks of the Commandery-in-Chief and taken from it a Past Commander-in-Chief and a Constitutional Life Member. With a profound sense of sorrow it is my sad duty to announce to the Order the death of its founder and most valued friend, Major A. P. Davis, of Pittsburg, Pa.. which occurred at his home on May 21, 1899. The life of Father Davis, as he was familiarly known throughout the order, was typical in every sense of the true American patriot, descending through a line of ancesters, who were eminently identified with the establishment and progress of American independence and liberty, from the landing of the Pilgrim fathers, through every war and struggle to the close of the war of the rebellion. He himself served both in the army and navy, winning therein honor and distinction. He was a member of all the American patriotic societies; including the Grand Army of the Republic, and so anxious was he for the perpetuity and continuance of the principles of these associations that he successfully undertook the founding and promoting of the order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., and its welfare and success was ever the ambition of his heart. His life is worthy of example and by it we should each of us be encouraged to renew our work for liberty and humanity and the maintainance of our country and its free institutions. The order will deeply feel his loss, and its profound sympathy goes out to his wife, his family and his immediate friends, who feel his loss so keenly, and in token of our sorrow for his loss, it is ordered that for 30 days following the reading of this order in Camps, the charter and altar, when in session, shall be draped in mourning.

Maj. John E. Mills, a life member of the Commandery-in-Chief, and a member of Camp No. 129, Division of Massachusetts, died at his home in Bradford, on May 9, at the age of 83 years. He was without a doubt the oldest son of a veteran in our order. He had a father and four sons besides himself in the war of 1861-5, and was an active member of his Camp up to within a very short time of his death. The Division of Massachusetts was proud to honor this member of our order, and the Commandery-in-Chief was pleased to make him a life member of that body. The whole order joins in sympathy with the Division of Massachusetts for the loss of this distinguished and aged brother.

II. By a vote in the Council-in-Chief on the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief, the 18th encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief will convene in the city of Detroit, September 7, 8 and 9, 1899. The location of headquarters and the place of holding the encampment and other important details will be announced later.

III. Since the publication of the last order Commanders of Divisions have been elected as follows:

Alabama and Tennessee, W. E. Bolin, Birmingham, Ala.
Missouri, Ben Prack, 101 N. Broadway, St. Louis.
Illinois, Will C. Schneider, Kankakee.
Kentucky, Alexander Hamilton, Newport.
Wisconsin, A. G. Braband, 306 Broadway, Milwaukee.
Maryland, G. S. Whitmore, 807 First St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
California, Harry T. Moore, 71 Stevenson St., San Francisco.
Indiana, H. O. P. Kline, Jonesboro.
Pennsylvania, S. S, Horn, Easton.
Iowa, W. A. Brown, Marshalltown.
Maine, Edward H. Smith, Westbrook.
Michigan, C. J. Post, Grand Rapids.

IV. Division Commanders are reminded that pages 35 and 37 of the old three-degree ritual must be returned without delay to the Quartermaster General, by mail or express, prepaid, in equal number for the new rituals received. Failure to make return for these vouchers will cause the cost of all new rituals issued to Divisions be charged to their account on the books of the Quartermaster General, and will deprive the representatives of such Divisions of seats in the 18th Annual Encampment of fhe Commandery-in-Chief, if such account is not settled in full prior to that time.

V. The committee on transportation for the Eighteenth Annual Encampment at Detroit is a follows:

Adj. Gen. G. B. Abbott, 84 La Salle St., Chicago.
Q. M. Gen. Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston.
Col. R. Loebenstein, Warrensburg, Mo.
Col. E. H. Archer, Columbus, Ohio.
Col. R. M. J. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa.

VI. C. E. Root, of John P. Lovell Camp, No. 92, Division of Massachusetts, was tried by court-marshall on the charge of "Violation of his pledge taken at the time of assuming office as Quartermaster Sergeant of his camp," found guilty, and sentence of dishonorable discharge approved. Proper record of the foregoing will be made on black books.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

GEO. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,

947 TREMONT BUILDING,

BOSTON, MASS,, Feb. 1, 1899.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S.A.,
Chicago, Ill.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have the honor to submit my report for the term beginning on the 15th day of September,1898, and ending on the 31st day of December, 1898:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

CASH RECEIVED FROM:		PAID FOR:	
Past Q. M. Genl. Lobenstein.	$ 890.88	Supplies (including cost of shipping)	$ 153.61
Received for supplies	696.90	Office expenses	391.12
Received for P. C. tax	1,125.70	General expenses	191.71
Received for charter fees	39.50	General orders	20.00
		Salaries	800.00
		Seventeenth National Encampment	46.00
		Traveling expenses	7.00
		Miscellaneous	3.44
		Cash on hand	1,140.10
	$ 2,752.98		$ 2,752.98

December 31, 1898. Supplies on hand, as per inventory $ 980.07

GENERAL ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31, 1899.

ASSETS:		LIABILITIES:	
Various Divisions	$ 9.44	Various Divisions	$ 34.67
Furniture	481.95	Surplus	2,573.89
Supplies	980.07		
Cash	1,140.10		
	$2,611.56		$2,611.56

PROFIT AND LOSS, DECEMBER 31,1895.

LOSS:		PROFIT:	
General Orders	$ 20.00	Charter fees	$ 39.50
Salaries	800.00	P. C. tax	1,125.70
Traveling Expenses	7.00	Supplies Profit	149.23
Office expenses	391.12	Balance (net loss)	141.40
General expenses	191.71		
Seventeenth National Encampment	46.00		
	$1,455.83		$1,455.83

FRED E. BOLTON,
Quartermaster-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,

947 TREMONT BUILDING,

BOSTON, MASS., May 1, 1899.

GEN. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A
Chicago, Ill.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have the honor to submit my report for the quarter ending March 31, 1899:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

CASH ON HAND:		PAID FOR:	
As per last report	$ 1,140.10	Supplies, (including cost of shipping	$ 1,045.67
Received for supplies	858.02	Office expenses	220.80
Received for P. C. tax	1,232.87	General expenses	8.18
Received for charter fees	50.00	Traveling expenses	132.51
Miscellaneous	8.27	Salaries	750.00
		General orders	13.50
		Miscellaneous	5.89
		Cash on hand	1,112.71
	$3,289,26		$3,289.26

March 31. 1899. Supplies on hand as per inventory $1,280.87.

GENERAL ACCOUNT, MARCH 31, 1899.

ASSETS:		LIABILITIES:	
Furniture	$ 481.95	A. P. Davis	$ 15.00
Supplies	1,280.87	E. B, Stillings & Co	5.25
Cash	1,112.71	Various Divisions	30.53
Various Divisions	94.42	Surplus	2,919.17
	$2,969.95		$2,969.95

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, MARCH 31, 1899.

LOSSES:		GAINS:	
General orders	$ 13.50	Charter fees	$ 50.00
Salaries	750.00	Per capita tax	1,232.87
Traveling expenses	132.51	Supplies (profit)	187,40
Office expenses	220.80		
General expenees	8.18		
Balance (gain)	345.28		
	$1,470.27		$1,470,27

FRED E. BOLTON,
Quartermaster General.

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 10, 1899.

GENERAL ORDER,
No. 4,
Series 1899.

I. The Divisions of Alabama and Tennessee, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Gulf, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, South Dakota and Wisconsin are delinquent to the Chaplain-in-Chief for the consolidated reports of their respective Division Chaplains. The Division of the Gulf, Missouri, Oregon and West Virginia are delinquent to the Adjutant General's Headquarters for their respective Rolls of Honor. There are several Divisions likewise delinquent to the department of theInspector General. In connection with the foregoing, the attention of Division Commanders is respectfully called to Sec. 1, Art. 4, Chap. 5, Page 53, C., R. and R.

II. The attention of Division Commanders is respectfully called to Sec. 3, Art. 2, Chap. 5, Page 51, C., R. and R. In this connection the Quartermaster General respectfully requests that where it is possible all business with his department should be closed by the 17th of the current month. No requisitions for supplies will be filled after that date until after the closing of the 18th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief. The Quartermaster General is hereby instructed to exchange no more new rituals for old ones after that date in the manner hitherto observed for supplying new rituals to camps, and Division Commanders must make final settlement for all rituals received by them on or before that date.

III. Division Commanders will please see to it that their consolidated Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports, together with the per capita tax, is forwarded in time to reach the Adjutant General's headquarters not later than the 20th day of the current month.

IV. In forwarding certificates for delegates and Past Division Commanders to the Adjutant General a number of errors have been made, one Commander certifying for a Past Commander who was deceased. In another instance a Past Commander was enumerated as entitled to representation from a given Division when he had transferred and was a member of another Division, and in many instances Past Commanders who belong to suspended camps were reported as in good standing. To correct these errors, each Division Commander is requested to immediately forward to the Adjutant General a list of the Past Division Commanders, Grand Division Commanders, and Past Commanders-in-Chief, if any there be, and certify to the good standing in the Order of each and every one. It is imperative that this should be attended to immediately, as the roster for the National Encampment is all ready to be printed, and only awaits verification and correction.

V. The following are hereby appointed as the committee on Fraternal Relations to attend the 33rd Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic (and auxiliary associations) to be held at Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 4-7, 1899.

Past Commander-in-Chief James Lewis Rake, Chairman, Reading, Pa.
Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling, Boston, Mass.
Past Commander-in-Chief Louis M. Wagner, Philadelphia, Pa.
Past Division Commander Theodore A. Barton, Providence, R.I.
Hon. Webster Davis, Asst. Secy. Interior, Washington, D. C.

VI. During the 18th Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, headquarters will be established at the Hotel Cadillac, Detroit. The rates at this hotel, per day (American plan), are from $2.50 to $4.50, depending upon location and accommodations The Adjutant General, having a plan of the Hotel and a list of rates, will be pleased to give his assistance to delegations in locating themselves in comfortable quarters. The Russell House offers the same rates. Very good accommodations can be had at the Hotel Griswold for $2.00 and $2.50 per day, American plan. The beautiful Auditorium in the Masonic Temple has been secured as a

convention hall during the Encampment. It is expected at this time that among the arrangements for the entertainment of visitors will be a delightful ride, involving an afternoon and evening, by steamer up the Detroit river, which will include a fish supper.

VII. The chairman of the Transportation Committee reports that the Michigan Passenger Association has given a rate of one fare for the round trip. The Trunk Line Association has given a rate of a fare and a third on the certificate plan. The other Associations have not yet been heard from, but the complete arrangements will be published in subsequent orders.

VIII. It is expected that the official train for Detroit will leave Chicago, probably via the Wabash, on Wednesday evening, September 6, at 11 o'clock. Those who can make it convenient so to do, are invited to join the party. The rendezvous in Chicago will be the Hotel Brevoort.

IX. Pursuant to the request of the Division of Maryland and the District of Columbia, the States of North and South Carolina are detached from that Division and placed under the jurisdiction of the Division of the Gulf. Louisiana Camp, No. 1, Division of the Gulf, is hereby detached from that Division and assigned to the jurisdiction of the Division of Alabama and Tennessee.

By Command of
FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant General.

Since last publication, applications for charters have been approved, and camps mustered as follows:

DATE.	CAMP NO.	LOCATION.	DIVISION,	NO. OF APPLICANTS.
May 15	7	Sheridan	Oregon	20
" 15	30	Terre Alta	W. Virginia	26
" 20	39	Clearwater	Kansas	21
" 22	73	Vermontville	New York	20
" 23	401	Okawville	Illinois	19
" 23	402	Effingham	"	20
" 24	20	Salida	Colorado	20
June 7	210	Fort Hill	Ohio	15
" 19	16	Blackstone	Massachusetts	19
" 19	289	Lacona	Iowa	18
" 26	41	Pottstown	Pennsylvania	15
July 3	23	Avondale	"	24
" 10	11	Philadelphia	"	15
" 13	7	South Chatham	Massachusetts	27
" 14	24	Pottstown	Pennsylvania	28
" 14	260	Clearfield	"	18
" 17	20	North Haverhill	N. Hampshire	20
" 17	38	Milford	" "	18
" 22	38	French Creek	W. Virginia	16
" 22	39	Frankstown	Pennsylvania	23
Aug. 1	90	Hoosic Falls	New York	18
" 1	15	Ashton	So. Dakota	15

Total Applicants, 436; total camps, 22.

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 25, 1899.

GENERAL ORDER,
No. 5,
Series 1899.

I. The Council-in-Chief is requested to convene for business in the temporary Headquarters of the Quartermaster General, Parlor G, Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, 10 o'clock a. m. September 7, 1899.

II. The Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief will convene in the Auditorium of the Masonic Temple, Detroit, Michigan, 2 p. m. September 7, 1899.

III. It is with a deep sense of sadness that the announcement is made of the sudden death by drowning at Greensboro, Vermont, of the Reverend Harry L. Veazey, Past Chaplain-in-Chief, and Past Commander of the Division of Alabama and Tennessee. The sympathy of the whole order is extended to this bereaved Division which has sustained such a severe loss of a brother whose place can never be filled and whose loving, kind, loyal and noble character will long be revered and remembered by the many who knew him but to cherish him. 'Though gone before yet the light of his sublime life may be the beacon for us all to follow, an example worthy of emulation.

IV. John Abor of R. J. Myers Camp No. 35, Division of New York, was tried by court-martial on the charge of "conduct unbecoming a member in his relations to the order" (embezzlement of Camp funds,) found guilty and sentence of dishonorable discharge, approved. Proper record of which, will be made upon black books.

V. The transportation Committee submits the following information:

Railroad rates, for round trip, as follows:

New England Passenger Association—Territory: New England, States. Fare one and a third on certificate.

Trunk Line Association—Territory: Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Dunkirk and Salamanca, N. Y.; Erie and Pittsburg, Pa.; Bellaire, Ohio; Wheeling, Parkersburg and Huntingdon, W. Va., and points east thereof except New England. Fare and a third on certificate.

Central Passenger Association—Territory: Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and portions of Pennsylvania and New York. One first-class fare for round trip.

The Michigan Passenger Association the same.

The Western Passenger Association—Fare, one and a third, (possibly better) certificate plan.

Southern Passenger Association—Territory: South of the Ohio and Potomac Rivers and east of the Mississippi River. One fare and a third on certificate.

Three or four days before leaving home (if you are to travel on the certificate plan) see that your ticket agent is supplied with necessary certificates.

Delegates using the Certificate plan will pay full fare going and get a certificate filled in on one side by the agent of whom the ticket is purchased. If, however, the ticket agent at a local station is not supplied with certificates and through tickets to the place of meeting, he can inform the delegate of the nearest important station where they can be obtained. In such case the delegate should purchase a local ticket to such station and there take up his certificate and through ticket to Detroit. Tickets for going passage will be sold only within three days (not including Sunday) prior to the day of meeting. Have your certificate signed by Adjutant General Abbott as soon as you reach Detroit so that they can be vised by special agent of the R. R. On presentation of the certificate, duly filled on both sides, to the ticket agent at Detroit, within three days after adjournment (Sunday excepted) the holder will be furnished return ticket for one-third regular fare. No refund fare will be made on account of any person failing to obtain a certificate.

Delegates are requested to correspond with the members of the

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,

947 TREMONT BUILDING,

BOSTON, MASS., August 1, 1899.

GEN. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.
Chicago, Ill.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have the honor to submit my report for the quarter ending June 30, 1899:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

CASH ON HAND:		PAID FOR:	
As per last report	$ 1,112.71	Supplies, (including cost of shipping)	$ 849.41
Received for supplies	1,114,29	Office expenses	257.45
Received for P. C. tax	1,382.60	General expenses	18.75
Received for charter fees	64.00	Traveling expenses	162.09
Miscellaneous	.14	Salaries	750.00
		General orders	33.50
		17th National Encampment	390.49
		Furniture	32.98
		Miscellaneous	8.94
		Cash on hand	1,170.13
	$3,673,74		$3,673.74

June 30, 1899. Supplies on hand as per inventory $1,279.19.

GENERAL ACCOUNT, JUNE 30, 1899.

ASSETS:		LIABILITIES:	
Furniture	$ 514.93	Various Divisions	$ 34.47
Supplies	1,279.19	Surplus	3,002.95
Cash	1,170.13		
Various Divisions	73.17		
	$3,037.42		$3,037.42

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, JUNE 30, 1899.

LOSSES:		GAINS:	
General orders	$ 33.50	Charter fees	$ 64.00
Salaries	750.00	Per capita tax	1,382.60
Traveling expenses	162.09	Supplies (profit)	149.46
Office expenses	257.45		
General expenses	18 75		
17th National Encampment	390.49		
Balance (gain)	83.78		
	$1,696.06		$1,696.06

FRED E. BOLTON,
Quartermaster-General.

transportation committee of their respective localities. The committee is as follows:

Adj. Gen. G. B. Abbott, 84 La Salle St., Chicago.
Q. M. Gen. Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston.
Col. R. Loebenstein, Warrensburg, Mo.
Col. E. H, Archer, Columbus, Ohio.
Col. R. M. J, Reed, 32 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

The official train will leave Chicago 11 p, m., Sept. 6th, via the Wabash R. R. Round trip fare from Chicago, $7.75. The train leaving St. Louis at 8:40 p. m. same night, will be attached to official train at Montpelier, O. Round trip from St. Louis, $13.00. All who can are invited to join official train. For sleeping car accommodations from Chicago, apply early to the Adjutant General; from St. Louis, to Col. B. W. Frauenthal, Union Station, St. Louis.

VI. As this order will be the last issued by this administration, the Commander-in-Chief desires to convey his deep appreciation of the universal kindness and devotion with which he has been honored by the brotherhood throughout the Order. The fraternal regard has been so manifest, the charitable lenity overlooking the many shortcomings, so freely given, the unswerving efforts to advance the interests of the order, so deep that it seems scarcely possible that the relations could have been happier. Indulging in the hope that these marks of consideration will continue until the gavel falls upon the completed work of this administration—nay until time and memory shall be no more, we pray God speed us in all things to His glory and the honor of our beloved country.

By Command of
FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
GEO. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS.

CHICAGO, ILL , Sept. 30, 1898.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 1.

Leave of absence for three months, to date from Sept. 12, 1898, with permission to go beyond the limits of his Division, is hereby granted to the following-named officer, who will at the expiration thereof report in writing to these headquarters: S. A. Crane, Senior Vice-Commander Michigan Division.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To S. A. Crane, Senior Vice-Division Commander, S.V., U.S.A., Deerfield, Mich.

CHICAGO, ILL., 1898.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 2.

The attached is a true and correct transcript from the proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S A.

You will promulgate the same through the Division of New Jersey and furnish a certified copy to Gen. Joe Hooker Camp No. 45, at Mt. Holly in said Division.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To Col. James M. Mathews, Commanding New Jersey Division, S.V., U.S.A.

CHICAGO, ILL., Oct. 22, 1898.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 3.

Leave of absence for four months, to date from Nov. 1, 1898, with permission to go beyond the limits of his Division, is hereby granted to the following-named officer, who will, at the expiration thereof, report in writing to these headquarters: W. Glenn Walker, Senior Vice-Commander, Division of California and Hawaiian Islands.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To W. Glenn Walker, Senior Vice-Commander, S.V., U S.A., Los Gatos, Cal.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 3, 1898.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 4.

Leave of absence from date to Feb. 7, 1899, is hereby granted the following named officer, with permission to go beyond the limits of his Division, who will at the expiration thereof report in writing to these headquarters: M. P. O'Flaherty, Junior Vice-Commander, Division of Rhode Island, S.V., U.S.A.

By command of

Official: FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To M. P. O'Flaherty, Junior Vice-Commander, Providence, R I.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 14, 1898.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 5.

The following named officer is hereby appointed Assistant Inspector General to inspect the Quartermaster's Department of the Division of Missouri, Sons of Veterans, U.S A. This will be his authority for so doing and he will be respected and obeyed accordingly. He will report to the Inspector General: Past Col. Rudolph Loebenstein, Warrensburg, Mo.

By command of

Official: FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To Rudolph Loebenstein, Warrensburg, Mo.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 28, 1898.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 6.

The charter of the following named Camp is hereby annulled upon the recommendation of the Colonel commanding the Division, it appearing that the Camp has failed to make reports and pay *per capita* tax for three quarters, and the Camp shows a membership of less than the required number for maintaining a charter. The Colonel of the Division will proceed to secure the Camp and Division property in accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Order, issuing transfer cards to such members as may be in good standing on the records of the Camp, if any there be: Lincoln Camp No. 10, Division of California, located at Santa Cruz.

By command of

Official: FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To Col. Chas. L. Pierce, Commanding California Division, S.V., U.S.A., 13 Pine St., San Francisco, Cal.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 30, 1898.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 7.

The charter of the following named Camp is hereby annulled upon the recommendation of the Commander of the Division, it appearing that the Camp has failed to make reports and pay *per capita* tax for six months.

The Commander of the Division will proceed to secure the Camp Charter, and the Camp and Division property, in accordance with the provisions of

the Constitution, Rules and Regulations governing this case, and will issue transfer cards to such members as may be in good standing on the records of the Camp, if any there be. Stetson Camp No 203, Division of New York, located at Plattsburg.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To Col. E. W. Estes, Commanding Division of New York, S.V., U.S.A., Albany, N.Y.

CHICAGO, ILL., Feb. 10, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDER No. 8.

The resignation of A. R. Jones, Commander of the Division of West Virginia, is hereby accepted, and the members of the Division Council are hereby ordered to elect by ballot, on the form herewith attached, a successor, and forward the same to the Adjutant-General immediately, who will canvass the vote, and in case a choice is made, report the same to the Commander-in-Chief, otherwise to ask for a second ballot, and proceed in this manner until a choice is made.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

CHICAGO, ILL., Feb. 11, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDER No. 9.

The office of the Commander of the Division of West Virginia having become vacant by resignation, the following named officer of the Commandery-in-Chief will proceed to Elkins, W. Va., audit the accounts of the recent Commander, A. R. Jones, receive from him all moneys and all other property belonging to the Division of West Virginia, giving a receipt therefor and forward the same in accordance with instructions accompanying herewith.

He is authorized and empowered to represent the person of the Commander-in-Chief in his official capacity, and perform such acts as the Commander-in-Chief himself would be empowered to do in this case.

The travelling expenses incurred are necessary for the good of the service of the Sons of Veterans: Member of the Council-in-Chief H. H. Hammer, Reading, Pa.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

CHICAGO, ILL., March 22, 1899

SPECIAL ORDER No. 10.

It appearing that the Division Commander and the Senior Vice-Commander of the Division of Oregon having left said Division for more than thirty days, without leave of absence from these headquarters, and these headquarters being uninformed when, if ever, either will return to the confines of said Division, the following named officer is hereby ordered on duty, directed to assume command of said Division of Oregon, and is authorized and empowered to administer the affairs of said Division as acting commander, until otherwise ordered from these headquarters.

He is authorized to relieve from office and appoint such Division staff officers as in his judgment the best interests of the Division may require: Junior Vice Division Commander, Walter Ross, Eugene, Ore.

By command of

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

To Walter Ross, Junior Vice-Commander, Division of Oregon, S.V , U.S A., Eugene, Ore

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CHICAGO, ILL., April 17, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDER No. 11.

Good and sufficient reasons appearing and for the good of the Order, you are hereby authorized and empowered to reinstate and place in good standing in the Division of Maryland and District of Columbia, Lincoln Camp No. 9 of Baltimore, upon the payment of the requisite tax; said Camp having been suspended and its charter revoked for the non-payment of *per capita* tax.

By command of

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

To Col. Wm. B. King, Commanding Division of Md. and D C., S.V., U.S.A.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 24, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDER No. 12.

You are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to convene the Council of the Division of Oregon, S.V., U S.A., at McMinnville, State of Oregon, June 21, 1899, for the purpose of electing a Commander for the unexpired term caused by the departure of A. Q. Desart from within the borders of his Division for more than thirty days without leave of absence or authority from the Commander-in-Chief. You are also authorized to install or cause to be installed the person there elected to fill the unexpired term. The Council is also authorized to fill such other vacancies as may legally exist in the elective Division offices at the same time.

By command of

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

To Walter Ross, Junior Vice-Commander, Commanding Oregon Division, S.V., U.S.A., Eugene, Ore.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 26, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDER No. 13.

The following named officer is hereby detailed to install the officers elected at the Encampment of the Division of California and the Hawaiian Islands, which Encampment will be held at San Francisco, Cal., June 5, 1898. He will report to the Adjutant-General on Forms 49 and 50. This will be his authority for such installation: Past Division Commander Frank W. Bunnell, Los Angeles, Cal.

By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To Frank W. Bunnell, Los Angeles, Cal.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 26, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 14.

The charter of the following named Camp is hereby annulled upon the recommendation of the Colonel commanding the Division, it appearing that the Camp has failed to make reports and pay *per capita* tax for three years. The Colonel of the Division will proceed to secure the Camp and Division property in accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Order, issuing transfer cards to such members as may be in good standing on the records of the Camp, if any there be Captain Wiltz Camp No. 4, Division of California, located at Honolulu, H.I.

By command of

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

To Col. Charles L. Pierce, Commanding California Division, S.V., U.S.A., 13 Pine street, San Francisco, Cal.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 12, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 15.

The charter of the following named Camp is hereby annulled upon the recommendation of the Colonel commanding the Division, it appearing that the Camp has failed to make reports and pay *per capita* tax for three quarters, and the Camp shows a membership of less than the required number for maintaining a charter. The Colonel of the Division will proceed to secure the Camp and Division property in accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Order, issuing transfer cards to such members as may be in good standing on the records of the Camp, if any there be. Townsend Camp No. 1, Division of New York, located at Albany.

By command of

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

To Col. E. W. Estes, Commanding New York Division, S.V., U.S.A., Albany, N.Y.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 12, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 16.

The following named officer is hereby detailed to install the officers elected at the Encampment of the Division of Vermont, which Encampment will be held at Bradford, Vermont, June 14 and 15, 1899. He will report to the Adjutant-General on Forms 49 and 50. This will be his authority for such installation: Division Commander W. W. Lapoint, Barre, Vt.

By command of

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

To Col. W. W. Lapoint, Commanding Division of Vermont, S.V., U.S.A., Barre, Vt.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 20, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDERS No. 17.

The resignation of the following named officer having been forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief with the endorsement of the Division Commander, the same is hereby accepted, and Commander Harry T. Moore of the Division of California is hereby directed, authorized and empowered to cause the Division Council of California to elect a successor to fill the vacancy hereby created, and report the result of the election to these headquarters: Frank R. Handley, Junior Vice Division Commander elect, Division of California, S.V., U.S.A., residing in San Francisco, Cal. By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To Col. Harry T. Moore, Commanding California Division, S.V., U.S.A., San Francisco, Cal.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 22, 1899.

SPECIAL ORDERS No. 18.

Special Order No. 15 is hereby withdrawn on condition that Townsend Camp No. 1 of the Division of New York shall have liquidated all of its indebtedness to that Division before the convening of its Sixteenth Annual Encampment. By command of

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General.

To Col. E. W. Estes, Albany, N.Y.

CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF,

Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

CIRCULAR
No. 1.

SOUTH FRANKFORT, MICH., JAN. 25, 1899

DEAR BROTHERS:

There are epochs in national history that stand out as stars in the galaxy of Heaven, more bright and interesting than others. There are lives that seem as suns amid stars as we read the biographies of men. There are these characters in national life that have reflected upon the world the brightest glory of the highest type of manhood. There are fixed stars—stars of the first magnitude—and in this class we place the name of Abraham Lincoln. Not strange is it that the birthday of such a character should be remembered by a nation he loved and served, and for which he lost his life. We love to think of Lincoln, for thoughts of him bring always holy ambitions and a greater love for that which is true. His birthday marks an epoch in history. He it was who called for "Union Defenders" at a time when disunion threatened the national life. He it was who so skillfully directed the ship of state during those stormy winds of unsettled opinion. He it was who became the victim of an assassin's rage, and breathed out upon the country's altar his life blood, so loyal and true to the best interests of our nation.

Brothers, remember our fathers responded to the call of Lincoln. Now, let us respond to the call to do honor again to the day which ushered this brilliant star into our satellite system—a star which so rapidly became the center, around which there clustered hundreds of thousands whose lives shone with heroic patriotism.

As February 12, 1899, falls upon Sunday, we advise that the program be given Saturday or Monday night, and that pastors of various churches be requested to preach appropriate sermons upon the day proper. Let interesting programs be prepared by every camp, consisting of patriotic songs, inspiring recitals, addresses, etc.

We call special attention to Sec. VI, of General Order No. 6. The National Monument Committee, organized for the erection of a national memorial to the dead heroes of the Cuban battlefields and the martyrs of the Maine, has invited our Order to hold special services in connection with that noble cause, and we endorse the recommendation of Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard, that the services be held in connection with "Union Defenders' Day." Circulars in reference to this matter will be forwarded to each camp by the Commander-in-Chief.

The heroes who died for the cause of Cuban liberty deserve a warm place in memory. The noble boys who lost their lives in the shocking Maine disaster should have no less a favored place in memory's book. Many of them were our brothers, and their seats in the Camps are now vacant. Give them recognition in the program for "Union Defenders' Day." God bless the nation's brave. Let us rally to the standard. May memory never lose the influences stamped upon our lives by men like Lincoln. Let us thank God that they ever lived and brought into our national life so much of light, wisdom and patriotism.

Yours in F. C. and L.,

ARTHUR J. MORRIS,
Chaplain-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS
Chaplain-in-Chief.

☆☆☆

FRANKFORT MICH., May 4, 1899.

CIRCULAR
No. 2

DEAR BROTHERS: Memorial Day is close at hand. With it comes sacred duties. We are to stand by the side of our fathers in the Grand Army of the Republic and render to them any assistance they may need. They are the directors and we their associates in the work of Memorial Day. Rapidly are they falling into graves to be kept sacred with flowers of remembrance in the future of the Sons of Veterans.

Let us do honor, not alone to those who have passed away, but also to those living heroes in whose presence we have the exalted privilege of meeting. May we by our kindness bring a little more of sunshine into the closing years of their lives.

A nation like ours, could not well forget its brave, and thus a day we term "Memorial" has been dedicated to the expressed object of remembering the fallen, who once in the strength of young manhood faced death, starvation and suffering, if by this they might sustain the flag of the Union.

This is a holiday, yet of a far different character than other days we term such. Instead of thoughtless, irreverent deportment, we should by our example show to the Nation that we appreciate the honor the day brings to our fathers. There are responsibilities connected with the day and largely do they rest upon the Sons of Veterans order. Do not lead, however in the preparation for Memorial Day. Submit to the wishes of the fathers, for whom the day has been consecrated. Lead only where this is their request. Stand by their side, ready to bring to them help and cheer.

May there be an observance of the Day in the absence of games and sports, as well as in the special program prepared for the occasion.

As you place a flower upon the grave of him, who in the years past gave his service and then his life for the Nation, remember that some one will place a flower soon upon the grave of your father or brother. Oh, let us in tenderness remember the two millions of men who saved the Nation from disunion.

Let Tuesday May 30, be duly observed as Memorial Day throughout our orders. May no soldier's grave be neglected. Remember also the brothers who during the last few months gave life and its brightest hopes for the Nation in the Spanish-American War.

Endeavor to have Memorial Sunday, May 28, duly observed in the churches by appropriate services. Where possible let our brothers in the camps march in a company to the church with the Grand Army comrades.

We trust every Camp Chaplain will be prompt in sending his report to the Chaplain of his Division, and also that each Division Chaplain will be able to consolidate reports promptly and forward to this office.

Yours in F. C. and L.,
Rev. A. J. MORRIS,
Chaplain-in-Chief.

Approved:
FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: Next in the order of business is the reading of the report of the Quartermaster-General. We will listen to the report of the Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

Quartermaster-General: Commander, before I read my report I would like to say in connection with the little pleasantry on the part of the Adjutant-General, that my position may be consistent, if he will view it from the point that as the Adjutant-General I dealt with what I thought ought to be done, and as Quartermaster-General I again dealt with what I thought ought to be done. That is to say, as Adjutant-General, I saw a number of blanks that needed correction, and as Quartermaster-General, I found a considerable supply of such blanks that should be disposed of before we have any new ones printed. I now beg leave to submit the following report:

To FRANK L. SHEPARD, *Commander-in-Chief.*

Sir: I have the honor to submit my report of the business of the Quartermaster-General's department for the term ending Aug. 23, 1899.

REPORT SUPPLEMENTAL TO REPORT TO SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT.

Cash on hand, as shown by report	$1,986 59	
Received for *per capita* tax	96 07	
" " charter fees	12 00	
" " miscellaneous	20 60	
		$2,115 26
Paid for supplies	1 40	
" " office expenses	13 97	
" " general expenses	32 20	
" " gold star, Commander-in-Chief	150 00	
" " salaries	250 00	
" " charter fee (refunded)	2 00	
" " expenses Seventeenth Annual Encampment	774 81	
		1,224 38
Cash on hand at beginning of administration		$890 88

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FROM SEPT. 14, 1898, TO AUG. 23, 1899.

RECEIPTS.

Cash received from Past Q.M.-Gen. Loebenstein		$890 88	
" " for supplies	$3,263 83		
" " " *per capita* tax	4,854 21		
" " " charter fees	186 00		
" " " monument fund	20 00		
" " " miscellaneous	8 61		
		$8,332 65	
Total cash receipts			$9,223 53

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of the Seventeenth Annual Encampment in addition to those paid by preceding administration:—			
W. S. Garber	$44 00		
Inspector-General Durston (bal. due)	2 00		
Proceedings	365 49		
Past Commander Courtney, account inspection Oregon Division	25 00		
		$436 49	
Amount carried forward		$436 49	

Amount brought forward			$436 49
Travelling expenses:			
Commander-in-Chief		175 47	
Adjutant-General		95 59	
H. H Hammer, Council-in-Chief, account inspection, etc. West Virginia Division		30 54	
			301 60
Supplies:			
Badges and decorations		$1,589 60	
Camp and division supplies		863 00	
Cost of shipping		93 11	
Wrapping paper, twine, etc.		7 14	
			2,552 85
Office expenses:			
Rent, Commandery		$240 00	
" Quartermaster-General		240 83	
Light and toilet supplies, Commandery		38 87	
" " " " Q.M.-General		20 59	
Telegrams and Express, Commandery		40 38	
" " " Q M.-General		12 07	
Postage		177 23	
" Q.M.-General		43 00	
Stationery, all National Officers		53 50	
" Commandery		55 98	
" Q.M -General		20 94	
Record books, Q M -General		55 25	
Repairs, typewriting machines Commandery and Q M -General		13 55	
Clerical Services, (Commandery Card Index, Records, etc)		88 00	
Miscellaneous		28 08	1,128 27
General Expenses:			
Moving Commandery headquarters		$30 00	
" Q.M.-General		66 61	
Gold star, Commander-in-Chief		150 00	
Gold cross, Past Q.M.-Gen. Loebenstein		50 00	
Bond, Commander-in-Chief		25 00	
Blanks furnished free to Divisions		41 75	
Password and Countersign		5 63	
Insurance, Q.M.-General		16 20	
Blanks for Roster Spanish-American War		4 55	
Floral tribute funeral A. P. Davis		15 00	
Roster Division Commanders 1899, 1900		2 00	
Miscellaneous		4 90	
			411 64
Furniture			32 98
Salaries			2,800 00
General Orders			126 60
Eighteenth Annual Encampment			34 00
Miscellaneous			21 08
Total Expenditures			$7,845 51
Balance cash on hand			1,378 02
Supplies on hand, inventoried at cost			$1,119 82

The financial condition of the Commandery-in-Chief on Aug. 31, 1898, was as follows:

GENERAL ACCOUNT, AUG. 31, 1898

Assets. Dr.		*Liabilities.* Cr.	
Furniture	$481 95	Due to Divisions	$ 19 62
Supplies	1,342 72	Surplus	3,821 60
Cash	1,986 59		
Due from Divisions	29 96		
	$3,841 22		$3,841 22

The financial condition of the Commandery-in-Chief at the close of business Aug. 23, 1899, is as follows:

GENERAL ACCOUNT, AUG. 23, 1899.

Assets. Dr.		*Liabilities.* Cr.	
Furniture	$463 44	Due to Divisions	$30 91
Supplies	1,119 82	Monument Fund	20 00
Cash	1,378 02	Surplus	2,917 91
Due from Divisions	7 54		
	$2,968 82		$2,968 82

The account of Profit and Loss from Sept. 14, 1898, to Aug. 23, 1899, is as follows:

PROFIT AND LOSS, SEPT. 14, 1898, TO AUG. 23, 1899.

* *Losses.* Dr.		† *Gains.* Cr.	
Furniture (10% reduction),	$51 49	Charter fees	$186 00
Supplies	243 42	*Per capita* tax	4,869 01
Salaries	2,800 00	Supplies	706 12
General Orders	126 60		
Travelling expenses	301 60		
Office expenses	1,128 27		
General Expenses	411 64		
Seventeenth Annual Encampment	461 49		
Eighteenth Annual Encampment	34 00		
Balance (net gain)	202 62		
	$5,761 13		$5761 13

* Of this amount $213.50 account issue New Rituals (free).

† Of this amount $14.80 account credit of $25.00, extended by Seventeenth Encampment to Oregon Division.

While the balance of cash on hand is considerably less than one year ago, and the surplus account has been reduced, the financial showing for the year, taking everything into consideration, is not unsatisfactory. The efforts of Commander-in-Chief Shepard and Adjutant-General Abbott to administer to the affairs of the Order in a dignified and economical manner are worthy of your commendation.

The total cash receipts were $2,475.73 less than those of last year, but on the other hand the expenditures were likewise in a lesser amount to the extent of $1,686.33. Some of the expenditures may be properly termed extraordinary, from the fact that their recurrence for another year at least, is not probable. The replenishing of a reduced stock of supplies of the more expensive forms, and the publication of the new Ritual, represent a part of such expenditures. The free exchange of Rituals alone required an outlay of $213.50.

In connection with the matter of printing I am pleased to say that the comparative cost of supplies purchased has been reduced about thirteen per cent (13%).

Divisions are indebted to the Commandery-in-Chief in the following amounts: Gulf, $4.61; West Virginia, $0.28.

The following Divisions have balances to their credit: California, $3.33; Colorado, $1.04; Connecticut, $0.37; Illinois, $0.20; Maine, $0.40; Minnesota, $0.45; Nebraska, $0.60; New Hampshire, $0.26; Oregon, $9.76; Pennsylvania, $12.41; Rhode Island, $0.13; South Dakota, $0.14; Vermont, $0.68; Washington, $0.36; Wisconsin, $0.78.

At the date of this report the Divisions of Alabama and Tennessee and the Gulf are in arrears for *per capita* tax, for the quarter ending June 30, 1899.

I have received and filed the bonds, duly approved by the Commander-in-Chief, of the commanders of the Divisions of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

The vote of the last Encampment providing for the free issuance of the new Ritual to those Camps in good standing on the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1898, has been carried into effect; the time required to accomplish this covering a period of six months from the date of issue.

With the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, a Circular Letter was promulgated to Division Commanders setting forth the rules to be observed and the conditions governing the exchange of Rituals. Each Camp returning pages 35-37 of an old Ritual received a new one free of charge. If the vouchers returned were less than the number of Rituals allowable to each Camp (5) it was required that the Divisions be paid for the missing Rituals, the Divisions in turn reimbursing the Commandery-in-Chief. In this manner 4,250 Rituals were issued free of charge to Camps at a cost of $213.50 to the Commandery-in-Chief. The practicability of requiring payment for Rituals unaccounted for by Camps, is shown by the receipt of $132.80 from this source. The issue to each Division is shown by the following table: —

Alabama and Tennessee	34
California	53
Colorado	16
Connecticut	112
Gulf	
Illinois	276

Indiana	170
Iowa	197
Kansas	208
Kentucky	34
Maine	188
Maryland	90
Massachusetts	548
Michigan	170
Minnesota	74
Missouri	135
Nebraska	50
New Hampshire	96
New Jersey	102
New York	486
Ohio	242
Oregon	19
Pennsylvania	570
Rhode Island	45
South Dakota	37
Vermont	152
Washington	46
West Virginia	9
Wisconsin	91
Total	4,250

During the year death has removed the founder of our Order, Maj. A. P. Davis, whose services for the organization are so well known to its members. The death of this worthy gentleman in addition to being a personal loss, affects to a great degree the vital interests of our finances. It is known to the delegates of this Encampment that Major Davis was for many years in charge of the badge and decoration department and supervised the manufacture of the same. By contract it was agreed that during his life he was to enjoy this privilege, and the purchase of all badges used by this organization made of him. At his death the patent rights, designs, etc., were to revert to the Commandery-in-chief, as I understand the conditions.

The sale of badges and decorations is one of the principal sources of our income, and heretofore the profits to the Commandery have been exceedingly small, the greater portion thereof being received by Major Davis. It is not necessary to indulge in speculation as to the amount these profits represented to him, that they represented what was practically an established business to him can be conservatively assumed.

Under these circumstances this Encampment must take some action that will provide for the continuance of the manufacture of the various badges and decorations heretofore provided. It would seem that the most consistent and businesslike action that can be taken would be to provide that hereafter this form of supplies be handled in the same manner as the other articles controlled by the Order, and the manufacture thereof be assumed through the proper officers whom you will designate. To do this, will be to subserve the interests of the Order and to materially increase its revennes.

An extended correspondence upon this subject has passed between the Commander-in-Chief and this department, and his able presentation of what has transpired and logical recommendations upon the matter

are in full accord with my individual views and need no further comment.

By an agreement between Mrs. A. P. Davis, widow of the deceased and executrix of his estate, a purchase of a considerable stock of badges, etc., has been made at prices advantageous to the Order. The stock includes 1,541 membership badges, 393 iron crosses, 100 enamel buttons, 100 enamel pins, 112 oxydized silver buttons, 100 oxydized silver pins, 386 bronze buttons, 100 bronze pins, 66 bar buttons, 2,000 tri-color ribbons, 1,000 blue ribbons, 896 red ribbons, 2 bolts yellow ribbon, 500 blind keeps for crosses, all dies, cutters, etc., for badges and crosses. The price to be paid for these goods aggregates $341.99.

Attention is respectfully called to the item in the financial statement designated as "Monument Fund," which was received through the Adjutant-General and specified as a contribution from the Minnesota Division, for a monument for Maj. A. P. Davis.

In conclusion, I desire to thankfully acknowledge the invariable courtesy and kindness of the Division officers who have had official relations with this department. Assuming the office quite unfamiliar with the routine and system required to properly administer to its affairs, I feel that possibly many things have been left undone through lack of that technical knowledge that experience alone brings. It is therefore all the more reason why I appreciate the charitable and fraternal consideration of my shortcomings, which were, I assure you, not from the lack of good intentions.

Succeeding the peerless Loebenstein who gave six years of splendid service, I shall be content if this, my first report, with all of its imperfections, is acceptable to you.

To Commander-in-Chief Shepard, our loyal, zealous and capable leader, I am indebted for favors without number. The year that is now closing our official relations will be cherished for its pleasant memories. This intercourse, beyond being so agreeable, has but served to strengthen the bonds of personal friendship, and increase my admiration for one of the most honorable, manly men it has ever been my privilege to know, and for whom I sincerely wish the choicest of life's blessings for all future time.

The lion-hearted Abbott has brought to the position of Adjutant-General that experience gained by long and constant service for the Order from the lowest to the highest rank within the gift of the Order, and leaves me his debtor for marked courtesies and kindness.

Assistant Quartermaster-General Hannon, a most faithful friend and associate, has been a tower of strength and encouragement to me personally, and has rendered the most valuable of services. I desire to record herein my most grateful appreciation of his loyalty.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

FRED E. BOLTON,
Quartermaster-General.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will go to the Committee on Officers' Reports under the rule. The Commandery will now listen to the report of the Inspector-General, Forrest W. Briggs.

FRED E. BOLTON.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

Inspector-General Briggs submitted the following report: —

REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

Gen. Frank L. Shepard,

Commander-in-Chief and Brothers:

In submitting this my report to the inspection department of our Order I cannot but deplore the negligence of the many Inspectors who failed totally to send me their consolidated reports, thus depriving their respective Divisions of any credit for the work done during the past year.

DIVISION INSPECTIONS.

Regarding the inspections of Division headquarters, would say they are as necessary as a Camp inspection, since they show that in some Divisions the Commanders are very careless or are not careful readers of our Constitution, Rules and Regulations. This will be shown you by the following: —

1. Every Division has a charter.

2. All Divisions have a regularly adopted set of By-Laws, except Oregon, Colorado, Gulf and Iowa.

3. (*a*) All Divisions keep a record of their Division proceedings, and all possess the minutes of their Division Council meetings, except Washington and Illinois.

(*b*) All Divisions keep a register of members except Wisconsin.

(*c*) A roster of officers is kept by all Divisions except South Dakota.

(*d*) All Divisions keep a record of commissions except Ohio.

(*e*) A record of dispensations is not kept by Wisconsin and West Virginia.

(*f*) Ohio and Vermont are the only Divisions who do not possess a Black Book, properly kept.

(*g*) An Adjutant's cash book is kept by all Divisions except Kansas.

(*h*) The Quartermaster's cash book is not properly kept in the Division of West Virginia.

(*i*) All Divisions except Massachusetts and West Virginia keep a ledger.

4. The Quartermasters of Colorado, West Virginia and Wisconsin do not keep an account with each Camp as provided for.

6. Division accounts are properly kept in all Divisions except Colorado and West Virginia.

7. The Divisions reported in debt are Iowa, Kansas, Indiana, South Dakota, Ohio, Michigan, Nebraska, Illinois and New Hampshire, and Vermont; Vermont owing the least, $20; Kansas the most, $346. Total indebtedness $936.54.

8. All Divisions except one have money in their treasury, the total cash balance being $3,400, a decrease from last year of $39.60. Massachusetts leads with the largest amount, $633.53. Pennsylvania follows with $526.48, and New York third with $435.39. The smallest cash balance shown, West Virginia, $5.92. Nebraska, 0.

9. All Divisions have supplies on hand, the total value being $1,236.31.

10. All supplies in use are furnished by the Commandery-in-Chief and are current.

11. Each Division Commander has filed a bond as prescribed by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, except South Dakota, the average figure being $2,000.

12. The Quartermasters in the Divisions of Oregon, West Virginia, Illinois and the Gulf, are reported as not having given bonds.

13. Four Divisions pay no salary and the remainder give compensation ranging from $1.00 in California to the Division of Pennsylvania whose salary list amounts to $1,000.00, while Ohio allows ten per cent gross receipts from Camps divided between the Adjutant and Quartermaster.

14. There are 29,801 members in good standing, average, 1,104. Pennsylvania leads with a membership of 6,825. West Virginia reports a membership of only 45.

15. 1,051 Camps were reported in good standing, an average of 36 to each Division.

16, 17, 18, 19. The total Camps organized is 4,936; the total number disbanded 3,007; the total suspended and not reinstated, 1,548. Total number Camps suspended during the last year 360.

20. 13 Divisions rendered the G.A.R. service the past year; 14 did not.

21. 3 Divisions held field days and 24 did not.

22. According to the reports of the Assistant Inspector-Generals all correspondence is promptly and thoroughly attended to except in West Virginia.

23. All orders of the Commander-in-Chief are promptly mailed.

24. Camp requisitions are filled by every Quartermaster, except West Virginia.

25. (*a*) All Division Commanders are familiar with the secret work except West Virginia.

(*b*) All but two Adjutants are familiar with the same work.

(*c*) All but nine Inspectors are familiar with the same.

(*d*) All but two Mustering Officers are familiar with the same.

26. 27 Division Commanders issue circulars to the G.A.R. officials regarding our Order and to the formation of new Camps; 2 do not.

27. Several Divisions report that the G.A.R. do not assist Camps to any extent, and others that they are in the heartiest sympathy at any and all times.

28. 29. The L.A.S. is established in all but 9 Divisions, and from the reports gleaned from various headquarters it appears that wherever an aid exists it is of material benefit to the Camp with which it is connected.

30. I find that in 13 Divisions the social feature predominates; 10 are military and 9 are divided.

31. 32. 14 Divisions charge $15 for a charter; one, $18; eleven, $20; one, $22, and one $30. A charter and all Camp supplies are fur-

nished as prescribed in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations; some Divisions include a Camp seal and the expenses of the mustering officer.

33. The total expense or cost of the inspection of 27 Division headquarters amounted to $49.30, a decrease of $322.75 over last year; an average of $1.80 to each Division.

CAMP INSPECTIONS.

Regarding Camp inspections would say that they have not been as full and as complete this year as we had hoped for. There are several reasons for this, the chief one being the Spanish-American war.

The following Divisions are not rated in the tables, they not having reported, although every effort was made to secure them, even to a personal order from General Shepard, but without avail: Colorado, Gulf, Indiana, Missouri and West Virginia.

The reports of some of the Division inspectors were models of neatness and accuracy, while others contained room for improvement; some were practically of no value whatever and caused considerable delay and annoyance, as it was necessary to thoroughly revise and correct them before they were of the slightest use. Some failed entirely to make out a consolidated report, merely sending in their blanks of Camp inspections; fully 75% of them contained errors of one kind or another and beside several reports were on old forms, and the fact that the questions and numbers did not correspond, entailed a vast amount of work upon this department.

A comparative statement of the results obtained from questions Nos. 1 to 20 inclusive are as follows: —

1. 374 Captains received a mark of excellent on this question, a loss from last year of 60; 163 were Good, 148 Fair and 88 Poor.

2. 218 Captains were marked Perfect on their degree work, a loss of 35; 157 were Good, 177 Fair and 222 Poor.

3. 276 1st Lieutenants were Perfect in their ritualistic work, a loss of 47; 160 were Good, 181 Fair and 147 Poor.

4. 268 2d Lieutenants have committed their degree work to memory, a loss of 19; 153 were Good, 189 Fair and 153 Poor.

5. 255 Chaplains were Perfect, a loss of 9; 127 were Good, 236 Fair and 175 Poor.

6. 290 Sergeants of the Guard were Perfect, a loss of 52; 260 were Good, 171 Fair and 141 Poor.

7. But 332 officers were regular in their attendance, a loss of 104; 239 were Good, 133 Fair and 60 Poor.

8. 332 Camps show a gain in membership since last year, a loss of 106; 117 were Good, 88 Fair and 226 Poor.

9. 611 Camp records were correctly kept, a loss of 134; 98 were Good, 41 Fair and 28 Poor.

10. But 625 Quartermasters have filed bonds, a decrease of 140; 60 were Good, 47 Fair and 52 Poor.

11. 436 Camp officers are reported as uniformed, a loss of 80; while 90 were nearly so, 78 in part and 149 have none at all.

12. 419 Officers wear rank straps and side arms, a loss of 20; 107 received a rating of Good on this question, 95 were Fair and 126 Poor.

13. 623 Camp rooms were properly equipped and marked Excellent, a loss of 112; 93 were Good, 33 Fair and 54 Poor.

14. 448 Staff officers are reported as being provided with proper chevrons, a loss of 49; 47 were Good, 43 Fair and 126 Poor.

15. 366 Camps are reported as fully uniformed, a loss of 106 as against a loss of 457 last year; 107 were partly uniformed, 101 made a fair showing, and 60 have none whatever.

16. 695 Camps present their recruits with a badge, a loss of 196; 20 were Good, 18 Fair and 37 omit it entirely.

17. General Orders are read in 779 Camps; 32 read them occasionally, 16 generally, 11 make no pretence of paying the slightest attention to the commands of their superior officers.

18. 793 of the Camps inspected observe Memorial Day; 20 were marked Good, 19 Fair and 28 disregarded the day altogether.

19. Reports and dues are forwarded promptly in 584 Camps; 88 are Good in this respect, 37 Fair and 35 Poor.

20. 578 Camps forwarded their Surgeons' and Chaplains' reports promptly; 38 received mark of Good, 48 Fair and 64 Poor.

The following information is gathered from replies to questions Nos. 21 to 37 : —

21. Total members in good standing 23,911, average 854.

22. Number of members dropped during last year 25,553, average 91.

23. Number of special meetings held 828, average 30.

24. Total value of Camp property $182,799.43, average $6,527.55.

25. Amount of funds over total indebtedness $60,828.68, average $2,176.90.

26. Amount charged for annual dues $2,389.97, average $85.32.

27. Amount charged for muster fee $1,389.75, average $49.25.

28. (*a*) Number of members relieved 660, average 24.

(*b*) Amount expended $9,796.83, average $349.80.

29. Money spent for the relief of veterans and their families $1,129.38, average $40.33.

30. Number of Camps equipped, 555; 522 infantry, 17 cavalry, 14 artillery, 1 signal corps, 1 ambulance corps and 1 band.

31. Number of members equipped with arms and accoutrements $6,804, average 207.

32. (*a*) Number of Camps who engage in regular drill 466, average 17.

(*b*) Number who do not 375, average 14.

33. (*a*) Number of Camps who have aided the local G.A.R. or W.R.C. 375, average 13.

(*b*) Number who do not 472, average 17.

34. (*a*) Number of Camps having a Ladies' Aid Society 259, average 9.

(*b*) Number who do not 454, average 16.

35. (*a*) Number of Camps where local G.A.R. attend meeting and encourage the Camp 431, average 15.

(*b*) Number who do not 354, average 13.

36. (*a*) Number of Camps who hold social gatherings 413, average 15.

(*b*) Number who do not 286, average 10.

37. Total cost of Camp inspection $806.33, average $28.80.

Division.	Number of Camps in Division.	Number Inspected.	Number not Inspected.	Surrendered Charter since last inspection.
Alabama and Tennessee	12	9	2	7
California and H.I.	17	14	2	10
Connecticut	26	25	1	1
Illinois	74	56	18	
Indiana				
Iowa	47	25	22	21
Kansas	54	42	12	
Kentucky	16	8	8	
Maine	48	48		
Maryland	24	17	7	
Massachusetts	123	121	2	
Michigan	38	18	20	2
Minnesota	21	10	11	
Nebraska	20	14	6	
New Hampshire	20	19	1	1
New Jersey	24	24		
New York	102	92	10	10
Ohio	107	35	72	
Oregon	6	4	2	
Pennsylvania	154	117	37	7
Rhode Island	9	7	2	2
South Dakota	14	9	5	1
Vermont	10	40		
Washington	15	8	7	6
Wisconsin	17	15	2	
Total	1,018	877	238	67

Division Inspectors, 1898.

Alabama and Tennessee	Charles R. Barker	Anniston, Ala.
California	A G. Benuet	San Jose, Cal.
Colorado	(none reported)	
Connecticut	M. M. Frisbie	Southington, Conn.
Gulf	(none reported)	
Illinois	Geo H. Williams	Plainfield, Ill.
Indiana	(none reported)	
Iowa	B. Fisher	Creston, Ia.
Kansas	J S. Alexander	Florence, Kan.
Kentucky	Henry F. Hoeger	Louisville, Ky.
Maine	Fred E. Hooper	Bath, Me.
Maryland and D.C.	Chas. R. Jacobs	Washington, D.C.
Minnesota	A. O Allen	Wells, Minn.
Missouri	Frank R Burns	Carthage, Mo.
Nebraska	John G. Kuhn	Omaha, Neb.
New Hampshire	D H. McLinn	Plymouth, N H.
New Jersey	Geo. S. Bogert	Bayonne, N J.
New York	Chas H. E. Moran	Albany, N.Y.
Ohio	A. B. L. Booth	Lockland, O.
Oregon	C. B. Orai	Pine, Ore.
Pennsylvania	Fred A. Demois	Wilkesbarre, Pa.
Rhode Island	Geo W. Hoxie	Shannock, R.I.
*South Dakota	C. R Fisher	Redfield, So. Dak.
Vermont (probably)	Ira Morse	Cambridge, Vt
Washington	H. C. Phillips	Goldendale, Wash.

*No report.

DIVISION INSPECTORS — *Continued.*

West Virginia	W. H. Taylor . . .	Wheeling, W. Va.
Wisconsin	W. E. Hitchcoek . .	Antigo, Wis.
Michigan	Louis B. Kanitz, Jr. .	Muskegan, Mich.
Massachusetts	William E. Jennings .	New Bedford, Mass.

As will be seen by the report just read, there has not been the advancement in the Order that was expected. Of course every one will give you a reason for it, but in my estimation, there are various reasons, and I will not take up your valuable time reciting them. That our inspections do not produce the facts or benefits sought cannot be denied and the only remedy for this is the enforcing of a uniform inspection or abolishing the Division Inspection altogether; as they now are they seem to me more like a farce than a true inspection.

Why did Maine and Vermont succeed in inspecting all their Camps? Simply from the fact that they have systematized their work and when the time comes for inspection the Assistant Inspectors push their work with such vigor as to make a thorough and complete inspection of every Camp assigned them.

I would recommend that all Division Inspectors be compelled to return their consolidated reports to the Inspector-General not later than June 20, so that he may have a little time to do his work, and not be compelled as I have been this year, to make out the annual report the week before the Encampment, through delay in receiving reports and making out consolidated reports for the different Inspectors.

It is with great pleasure that at this time I can be permitted to thank publicly the various Inspectors who were prompt and efficient in performing the duties of their office. Every year the Inspector-General has called the attention of the Division Commanders to the importance of filling this office with careful workers, and it has no doubt borne fruit, but there is room for much improvement, and I trust it will be made, for the Inspector-General certainly should not be expected to make the averages, percentages, etc., for Division Inspectors. Yet I had to do this work on the reports of fifteen Divisions and that will be unnecessary when competent brothers are appointed in every Division.

I cannot close this, my annual report, without thanking the various members of the Order who have so kindly answered my every demand made upon them, and especially you, General Shepard, and your admirable assistants, Generals Abbott and Bolton; and to J. L. Rake for the uniform courtesy extended to me at all times in the performance of my duties and the excellent assistance rendered. Feeling, as I do, considerably put ont regarding the poor showing made by me this year against my predecessor, but knowing in my own heart that I have done everything in my power to produce the best showing, I must lay the blame where it belongs, upon the Division Inspectors, who totally failed in their duties by not reporting at all, and any errors made by me were those of the heart and not intentional.

Thanking you one and all for your attention, I am

Fraternally yours,

FORREST W. BRIGGS, *Inspector-General.*

EXHIBIT "A."

Table Showing Totals for First Ten Questions.

DIVISION.	1				2				3				4				5				6				7				8				9				10			
	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.
Ala. and Tenn.	3	1	2	3	2	...	...	7	3	1	2	3	1	1	1	6	2	...	1	6	2	1	...	6	2	2	1	4	2	1	...	6	5	1	1	2	6	...	...	3
Cal. and H.I.	5	6	3	...	5	4	4	1	4	5	3	2	4	5	3	2	4	6	2	2	4	3	5	2	6	7	1	...	8	4	1	1	10	2	1	1	8	2	3	1
Colorado	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Connecticut	13	5	3	4	10	6	1	8	12	4	5	4	12	2	6	4	14	3	4	1	10	11	1	3	9	6	6	4	13	2	3	6	18	6	1	...	22	1	...	2
Gulf	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Illinois	17	17	12	10	10	15	14	17	14	14	14	14	14	11	14	17	15	10	16	15	18	9	14	15	26	13	14	3	16	14	8	18	37	16	2	1	41	9	3	3
Indiana	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iowa	7	11	5	2	3	9	10	3	6	10	6	3	5	7	8	5	4	4	10	7	7	3	10	5	7	12	4	2	2	3	2	8	14	8	2	1	15	6	4	...
Kansas	17	8	8	9	13	7	7	15	6	4	10	12	14	7	9	12	10	5	10	12	17	10	9	6	20	5	9	8	21	8	7	6	32	6	3	1	30	7	2	3
Kentucky	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maine	23	5	7	13	10	4	9	25	8	5	17	8	11	3	18	6	6	10	5	17	17	9	12	15	20	20	8	...	16	7	1	24	35	9	2	2	33	3	7	5
Maryland	5	7	5	...	2	4	7	4	3	6	5	3	2	4	7	4	3	3	7	4	4	3	5	5	3	7	3	4	3	2	4	8	11	4	1	1	9	2	4	2
Massachusetts	86	13	12	10	60	22	19	29	67	15	19	20	65	18	17	21	53	15	26	27	66	23	16	16	54	33	18	6	53	26	13	29	108	8	4	1	107	2	3	9
Michigan	4	9	9	2	2	1	9	5	4	3	6	4	2	3	7	5	4	3	5	5	3	3	6	5	6	8	2	1	7	3	2	5	13	...	2	2	10	1	3	3
Minnesota	4	2	3	1	5	1	2	2	4	1	3	2	4	1	4	2	4	4	1	1	6	1	3	...	...	3	5	2	8	1	1	...	7	1	2	...	9	...	...	1
Missouri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska	3	3	3	5	1	1	5	7	5	...	5	4	4	1	5	4	3	1	5	5	3	4	2	5	4	7	2	1	6	8	9	14	13	1	...	...	12	1	...	1
New Hampshire	9	4	5	1	6	5	4	4	10	6	2	1	9	7	2	1	5	7	3	4	9	5	3	2	9	6	4	...	10	...	2	7	15	2	...	2	19	...	...	...
New Jersey	15	3	3	3	8	7	5	4	13	6	2	3	14	7	1	2	15	5	2	2	13	4	5	2	19	4	1	..	17	1	5	1	21	1	2	...	19	2	...	5
New York	57	12	9	14	35	19	12	26	40	21	16	15	32	25	18	19	34	17	25	16	37	98	17	20	44	33	13	2	40	10	10	32	80	4	6	2	76	7	4	5
Ohio	19	9	5	2	12	2	10	10	13	8	8	6	13	4	2	9	16	1	9	9	12	17	12	4	15	12	6	2	16	1	...	8	28	6	...	1	28	5	2	...
Oregon	...	3	1	...	...	2	1	1	1	2	1	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	...	1	4	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	2	1	...
Pennsylvania	61	21	28	7	23	39	36	19	40	39	29	12	37	40	28	12	41	31	29	17	42	29	33	11	69	31	18	3	69	10	10	30	103	10	2	3	108	4	2	5
Rhode Island	3	4	...	...	1	2	1	3	2	1	4	...	1	...	4	1	1	...	2	3	1	...	4	2	6	1	...	...	6	1	...	...	7	...	...	...	6	1	...	...
South Dakota	...	4	3	2	2	...	2	4	...	2	2	4	...	2	3	3	...	2	2	4	1	1	3	2	2	2	3	3	1	...	5	2	2	5	1	1	7	2	...	...
Vermont	13	11	11	5	2	4	11	23	12	2	13	13	12	2	15	11	12	6	9	13	13	9	5	13	6	19	8	7	17	6	2	15	29	1	7	3	27	2	9	2
Washington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Virginia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wisconsin	6	1	6	2	3	2	1	9	5	3	4	3	6	2	5	2	5	1	5	4	6	4	3	2	3	4	6	2	4	3	2	6	15	...	...	...	13	...	1	1
Totals	372	162	145	86	216	157	173	219	273	160	177	143	265	153	188	149	253	127	231	174	286	260	168	140	329	239	132	56	327	117	88	226	608	97	39	26	621	60	45	52
	1				2				3				4				5				6				7				8				9				10			

EXHIBIT "A."—Continued.

Table Showing Totals of Second Ten Questions

Division.	11				12				13				14				15				16				17				18				19				20			
	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.
Ala and Tenn.	2	...	1	6	2	...	1	6	7	...	...	2	1	...	...	8	...	1	2	6	9	...	...	...	7	...	1	1	5	...	...	4	7	...	..	2	6	...	...	3
Cal. and H.I.	3	4	...	7	3	4	1	6	6	3	1	4	3	3	1	7	2	3	3	6	11	3	...	2	12	2	...	...	10	2	...	2	6	...	1	7	4	...	1	9
Colorado	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Connecticut	18	3	1	2	17	4	3	1	21	2	2	..	15	2	2	4	16	3	2	3	25	...	...	...	21	3	1	...	25	...	...	...	25	...	...	...	25	...	...	...
Gulf	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Illinois	21	16	5	24	19	11	10	16	40	10	2	4	24	3	6	23	12	14	4	26	47	2	6	7	51	3	1	...	55	1	...	...	17	28	10	1	35	...	...	21
Indiana	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iowa	5	4	3	13	1	8	8	8	10	12	...	3	3	2	...	20	3	4	3	15	17	5	...	3	20	3	2	...	22	1	2	...	25	...	...	...	25	...	...	...
Kansas	13	6	4	9	9	7	10	16	26	5	5	6	15	3	4	20	12	3	8	19	33	...	2	7	35	2	1	1	41	...	...	1	30	5	3	4	32	6	1	3
Kentucky	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maine	30	4	10	4	24	8	5	11	44	1	2	1	28	1	5	14	24	7	13	4	48	...	...	...	43	3	2	..	48	...	...	...	21	13	12	2	25	6	8	9
Maryland	6	2	1	8	4	3	4	6	9	5	2	1	5	2	1	9	4	2	3	8	13	2	...	2	14	2	1	...	13	2	1	1	14	2	1	...	12	2	2	..
Massachusetts	116	2	3	...	101	15	5	...	116	4	...	1	108	3	4	6	108	10	2	1	121	...	...	...	121	...	...	...	118	1	1	1	98	18	2	3	119	...	2	...
Michigan	9	2	3	3	9	4	1	3	11	1	3	2	7	...	7	8	9	4	1	3	9	2	1	5	14	1	2	...	14	1	1	1	6	7	1	3	7	7	1	2
Minnesota	4	3	...	3	5	1	...	4	4	...	...	6	4	...	...	6	4	...	...	6	10	...	...	...	9	...	1	...	10	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	10	...	...	...
Missouri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska	1	4	3	6	2	6	1	5	8	4	2	...	3	...	3	8	...	1	6	7	12	1	...	1	12	1	...	1	12	1	...	1	9	4	1	...	9	4	1	...
New Hampshire	14	4	1	...	16	3	...	...	17	1	...	1	13	1	...	...	9	6	4	...	18	...	...	1	18	1	...	...	18	...	...	1	16	...	3	...	19	...	...	...
New Jersey	21	1	...	1	21	2	...	1	23	1	...	...	21	2	...	1	19	2	2	1	24	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	21	2	1	..	18	2	3	1
New York	58	5	12	17	52	14	11	15	73	15	3	1	51	7	5	29	34	14	24	20	88	1	2	1	88	1	3	...	87	2	...	3	89	...	1	2	87	1	3	1
Ohio	18	2	4	11	16	6	4	9	26	4	1	4	20	2	1	12	11	6	7	11	12	11	1	11	34	1	...	...	31	1	...	3	27	6	1	1	23	7	1	4
Oregon	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	3	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	4	3	...	1	...	3	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	4	...	...	...
Pennsylvania	81	12	16	9	81	12	12	12	105	7	2	4	87	13	4	13	63	21	18	9	115	1	1	2	112	5	...	...	110	3	...	4	116	1	...	1	96	3	18	1
Rhode Island	4	3	...	...	6	1	...	...	6	1	...	...	7	...	...	...	5	1	1	...	7	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	5	2	...	...	7	...	...	...	7	...	...	...
South Dakota	1	1	2	3	...	3	2	2	4	...	2	2	2	...	2	4	...	2	1	4	6	...	...	3	7	...	1	1	9	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	9	...	...	...
Vermont	25	2	3	10	11	6	10	13	28	6	2	4	22	...	2	16	18	7	4	11	40	...	...	...	32	1	...	7	28	...	4	8	31	...	...	9	23	...	8	9
Washington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Virginia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wisconsin	7	1	1	6	7	2	1	5	13	1	1	...	6	2	1	6	6	...	2	7	15	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	15	...	...	...
Totals	435	86	76	148	419	107	90	129	523	93	31	46	443	47	43	126	360	107	99	58	689	20	18	35	779	32	16	11	793	20	19	28	584	88	37	35	578	38	48	64
	11				12				13				14				15				16				17				18				19				20			

EXHIBIT "B."

Table Showing Percentages of First Ten Questions.

Division.	1				2				3				4				5				6				7				8				9				10			
	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.
Ala. and Tenn.	25	8	16	25	17	...	...	58	25	8	16	25	8	8	8	50	17	...	8	50	17	8	...	50	17	17	8	33	17	8	...	50	42	8	8	17	50	...	..	25
Cal. and H.I.	29	35	17	...	29	24	24	6	23	29	18	12	24	29	18	12	24	35	12	12	23	18	29	12	35	41	6	...	48	23	6	6	58	12	6	6	48	12	18	6
Colorado	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Connecticut	50	19	12	15	38	23	4	31	46	15	19	15	46	8	23	15	54	12	15	4	38	42	4	12	35	23	23	15	50	8	12	23	69	23	4	...	84	4	...	8
Gulf	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Illinois	23	23	16	14	14	20	19	23	19	19	19	19	19	15	19	23	20	14	22	20	24	12	19	20	35	18	19	4	22	19	11	24	50	22	3	1	55	12	4	4
Indiana	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iowa	15	23	10	4	6	19	21	6	13	21	13	6	10	15	17	10	8	8	21	15	6	21	19	6	15	25	8	4	4	6	4	48	30	17	4	2	32	13	8	...
Kansas	32	15	15	17	24	14	14	37	30	8	19	22	26	14	17	22	19	9	19	32	32	19	17	4	37	9	17	15	39	15	13	12	59	11	6	2	56	13	4	6
Kentucky	12	6	9	13	13	...	25	12	19	...	6	30	19	...	6	30	19	...	6	30	19	...	6	30	12	...	33	6	12	...	...	37	30	...	13	6	19	...	6	30
Maine	48	10	14	27	20	8	18	52	16	10	35	37	23	6	37	33	12	20	31	35	25	18	25	31	41	41	16	..	33	14	2	50	73	18	4	4	69	6	14	10
Maryland	29	41	29	...	12	24	41	24	18	35	29	18	12	24	41	24	18	18	41	24	18	29	29	24	18	41	18	24	18	12	24	49	65	24	6	6	53	12	24	12
Massachusetts	68	10	9	8	48	18	16	16	55	12	16	16	52	15	14	17	43	12	21	22	53	18	13	13	57	27	14	5	43	21	11	23	87	7	3	1	86	1	2	7
Michigan	10	24	5	5	5	3	24	13	10	8	16	10	5	8	18	13	10	8	13	13	8	8	16	13	16	21	5	3	18	8	5	13	34	...	5	5	26	3	8	8
Minnesota	20	15	5	5	25	5	10	10	20	5	15	10	20	5	4	10	20	20	5	5	30	5	15	...	...	15	25	10	40	5	5	...	35	5	10	...	45	...	...	5
Missouri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska	15	15	15	25	5	5	25	35	25	...	25	20	20	5	25	20	15	5	25	25	15	20	10	25	20	35	10	5	30	10	5	25	65	5	...	...	60	5	...	5
New Hampshire	45	20	25	5	30	25	20	20	50	30	10	5	45	35	10	5	25	35	15	20	45	25	15	10	45	30	20	...	50	...	10	36	75	10	...	10	95	...	...	...
New Jersey	62	12	12	12	33	29	21	17	54	25	8	12	58	29	4	8	62	21	8	8	54	17	21	8	79	17	4	...	71	4	21	4	87	4	8	...	79	...	...	21
New York	59	12	11	10	36	15	12	27	42	22	17	15	33	26	19	18	35	18	26	17	38	19	18	21	46	34	13	2	42	10	10	33	83	4	6	2	79	7	4	5
Ohio	18	8	5	2	11	2	9	9	12	7	7	6	12	4	8	8	15	1	8	8	11	6	11	4	14	11	6	2	15	1	...	16	26	6	...	1	26	5	2	...
Oregon	...	50	17	33	...	17	33	50	17	33	17	33	...	17	77	67	17	17	16	50	33	17	...	50	67	...	...	33	33	33	...	33	33	33	...	33	33	17	...	50
Pennsylvania	52	19	23	6	20	33	31	16	35	33	25	10	31	35	23	10	35	26	25	15	35	25	28	9	59	26	13	2	59	9	9	26	88	9	1	2	92	1	1	3
Rhode Island	33	44	...	...	11	12	11	33	22	11	44	...	11	11	44	11	11	11	22	33	11	...	44	22	66	11	...	...	66	11	...	...	77	11	...	...	66	...	...	11
South Dakota	...	29	21	14	21	...	21	28	...	14	14	28	...	14	21	21	10	14	14	28	7	7	21	14	14	14	14	21	7	...	36	14	14	36	7	7	50	2	...	...
Vermont	32	27	27	12	5	10	27	57	30	5	32	32	30	5	37	27	30	15	22	32	32	22	12	32	15	47	20	17	42	15	5	37	72	2	17	5	67	5	22	5
Washington	13	20	13	6	6	20	13	13	6	26	6	13	6	20	13	13	20	13	13	6	20	20	6	6	20	6	6	...	...	26	6	26	20	26	...	6	26	20	...	6
West Virginia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wisconsin	35	6	35	12	18	12	6	53	29	18	23	18	35	12	39	12	29	6	29	33	35	23	18	12	18	23	25	12	23	18	72	35	100	...	...	...	82	...	6	6
	1				2				3				4				5				6				7				8				9				10			

EXHIBIT "B."—Continued.

Table Showing Percentage for Second Ten Questions.

Division.	11				12				13				14				15				16				17				18				19				20			
	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.
Ala. and Tenn.	17	..	8	50	17	...	8	50	50	...	...	17	8	...	...	67	...	8	17	50	75	...	...	...	50	...	8	8	42	...	...	33	50	...	...	17	50	...	..	25
Cal. and H.I.	18	24	...	41	18	24	6	35	35	18	6	24	18	18	6	41	12	18	18	35	65	18	...	12	71	12	...	...	58	12	...	12	35	...	6	41	24	...	6	53
Colorado	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Connecticut	69	12	4	8	65	15	12	4	80	8	8	...	58	8	8	15	62	12	8	12	96	...	..	...	80	12	4	...	96	...	...	...	96	...	...	...	96	...	...	...
Gulf	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Illinois	28	8	7	32	26	14	14	22	54	14	3	5	32	4	8	31	16	19	5	35	63	3	8	9	69	4	1	1	74	1	...	...	23	38	14	1	48	...	...	28
Indiana	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iowa	10	8	6	6	2	10	10	10	21	25	...	6	6	4	...	43	6	8	6	32	36	10	...	6	43	6	4	...	47	2	4	...	60	...	...	...	60	...	...	...
Kansas	26	11	8	17	17	13	19	30	48	10	10	11	28	6	38	7	22	6	15	35	62	...	4	13	70	4	2	2	76	...	...	2	56	9	6	8	59	11	2	6
Kentucky	33	...	...	19	19	6	12	12	30	6	13	6	19	...	6	30	12	6	...	33	37	...	...	12	50	...	...	...	33	...	...	19	37	...	...	12	37	...	...	12
Maine	62	8	20	8	50	16	8	23	92	2	4	2	58	2	8	29	50	14	27	8	98	...	...	...	89	6	4	..	98	...	...	...	44	27	25	4	52	12	16	18
Maryland	35	12	6	49	24	18	24	35	65	29	12	6	29	12	6	65	24	12	18	49	76	12	...	12	82	12	6	...	76	12	6	6	82	12	6	...	76	12	12	...
Massachusetts	93	1	2	...	81	12	4	...	93	3	...	1	87	2	3	5	87	8	1	...	97	...	...	...	97	...	...	...	96	1	...	...	79	14	1	2	96	...	1	...
Michigan	24	5	8	8	24	10	3	8	29	3	8	57	18	...	5	21	24	10	3	8	24	5	3	3	37	3	5	...	37	3	3	3	16	18	3	8	18	18	3	5
Minnesota	20	15	...	15	25	5	...	20	20	...	...	30	20	...	...	30	20	...	...	30	50	..	..	...	45	...	...	5	50	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	50	...	...	...
Missouri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska	5	20	15	30	10	30	5	25	40	20	10	...	15	...	15	40	...	5	30	35	60	5	...	5	60	5	...	5	60	5	...	5	45	2	5	...	45	20	...	5
New Hampshire	70	20	5	...	80	15	...	..	85	5	...	5	65	5	...	25	45	30	20	...	90	...	...	5	90	5	...	...	90	...	...	5	80	...	15	...	95	...	...	...
New Jersey	92	4	...	4	87	8	...	4	96	4	...	...	87	8	...	4	79	8	8	4	98	...	...	...	98	...	...	...	98	...	...	...	87	8	4	...	75	8	12	4
New York	60	5	12	18	54	10	11	16	76	16	3	1	53	7	5	30	35	10	25	20	92	1	2	1	92	1	3	...	91	2	...	3	93	...	1	2	90	1	3	1
Ohio	16	2	4	10	15	6	4	8	24	4	1	4	19	2	1	11	10	6	6	10	29	1	1	1	32	1	...	...	29	1	...	2	25	6	1	1	21	6	1	4
Oregon	...	...	17	83	...	...	17	83	17	33	17	33	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	100	50	...	17	33	50	17	...	33	67	...	...	33	33	33	...	33	67	...	...	33
Pennsylvania	70	10	13	8	70	10	10	10	89	5	1	2	75	10	3	10	55	24	16	8	99	1	...	...	97	3	...	...	92	2	..	1	99	1	...	...	82	2	16	..
Rhode Island	44	33	...	...	66	11	...	...	66	11	...	...	77	...	...	...	55	11	11	...	77	...	...	...	77	...	...	...	55	22	...	...	77	...	...	...	77	...	...	...
South Dakota	7	7	14	21	...	21	14	14	29	...	14	14	14	...	14	29	..	14	7	29	43	...	...	21	50	...	7	7	63	...	...	...	63	...	...	...	63	...	...	...
Vermont	62	51	7	25	27	15	25	32	70	15	5	10	55	...	5	40	45	17	10	27	100	...	...	...	80	2	...	17	70	...	10	20	77	...	...	22	57	...	20	22
Washington	13	6	13	20	20	13	...	20	33	20	...	...	26	6	...	20	6	20	6	20	40	13	...	...	40	6	...	6	53	...	...	...	53	...	...	...	53	...	...	...
West Virginia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wisconsin	41	6	6	35	41	12	6	29	82	6	6	...	35	12	6	35	35	...	12	41	100	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	100	...	...	...
	11				12				13				14				15				16				17				18				19				20			

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will go to the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work. We will now have the report of the Judge Advocate-General, Brother Noel.

Judge Advocate-General Noel submitted and read the following report: —

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL.

Gen. Frank L. Shepard, *Commander-in-Chief S. V., U.S.A.*

Sir: I beg leave to submit herewith my report for the year ending Sept. 9, 1899, as Judge Advocate-General of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

I have submitted opinions upon such questions as have been presented to me by the Commander-in-Chief and by other officers of the Order and have reviewed the work of courts-martial during the past year and have submitted recommendations thereupon to the Commander-in-Chief. In this work I have endeavored to exercise the same care and research as in my private law practice. Aside from these my official duties have been practically nothing and I submit herewith copies of all the decisions I have rendered.

Thanking you for the cordial treatment received during your administration and wishing for yourself and the Order a splendid future, I remain,

Yours very respectfully,

James W. Noel,
Judge Advocate-General.

[The Opinions of the Judge Advocate-General will be found with the Decisions of the Commander-in-Chief.]

The Commander in-Chief: The report of the Judge Advocate-General will go to the Committee on Officers' Reports, as the others.

Next in order is the report of the Surgeon-General, Brother McDowell.

Surgeon-General McDowell submitted and read the following report: —

REPORT OF SURGEON-GENERAL.

Gen. Frank L. Shepard, *Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U.S.A.*

Dear Sir and Brother: Herewith I submit my report as Surgeon-General for the term just closing.

Under any system of communication, as we are at present organized, between this department and the officers charged to collect and compile the returns necessary to make a complete report, only an approximate idea can be had of the physical, military and sociological characteristics which are evidenced in our membership. Then, too, the fact that the periods for the collection of the required statistics are very much like the movable feasts of some of our religious organizations, helps to render the task assigned to this department still more perplexing. The reports called for are supposed to be made by the Camp officers at the close of each calendar year. In the majority of cases they are; but in a large minority they do not come into the

hands of the Division surgeons until early in the summer of the succeeding year, and in some cases not at all.

Nearly complete reports have been received from the surgeons of 24 divisions. Out of a total of 939 Camps in these Divisions in good standing on the 31st of December, 1898, the consolidated reports show returns from 750 Camps, embracing a total of 23,736 members. The officers whose duty it has been to supervise this work have been in the main zealous and careful in performing it; but the dereliction and negligence of Camp captains are responsible for whatever failure has resulted in the attempts to compile the vital statistics of the Order.

The following table by States shows the status of the Order regarding the available military strength of its membership: —

Divisions.	Adjutant-General's Report, Dec. 31, 1898.		Reporting to this Dept.	Members in good standing.	Members mustered since last report.	Members in State Militia.	Members in United States army.	Members in United States Navy.	Members who are members of the Grand Army of the Republic.	Total number of drilled men.	Number of members able to bear arms.
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.								
Ala. and Tenn.	12	241	10	224	20	8	35	.....	2	90	150
California and H.I.	15	481	15	369	75	16	45	2	46	221	288
Colorado	5	133	4	114	49	6	16	.....	5	59	113
Connecticut	26	739	24	736	113	27	10	1	28	388	691
Gulf	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Illinois	71	1,840	43	1,254	225	221	63	.....	48	639	1,150
Indiana	43	962	17	418	75	6	18	.....	3	64	392
Iowa	36	753	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kansas	54	1,174	51	1,766	31	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,001
Kentucky	16	312	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maine	48	1,370	46	1,227	150	46	16	2	24	396	1,032
Maryland	24	532	21	476	39	21	32	5	19	230	459
Massachusetts	125	3,936	111	3,700	364	111	99	10	134	1,174	3,292
Michigan	44	1,096	26	670	115	1	37	.....	9	325	575
Minnesota	17	454	15	325	77	6	8	.....	5	96	290
Missouri	30	635	18	441	40	.....	7	.....	1	187	391
Nebraska	19	389	6	117	76	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	117
New Hampshire	19	594	18	577	55	35	1	.....	18	148	514
New Jersey	27	826	24	780	110	56	45	2	12	660	763
New York	106	3,523	64	2,345	356	38	47	7	70	918	2,087
Ohio	56	1,373	25	717	148	11	16	.....	26	406	686
Oregon	8	133	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pennsylvania	151	6,825	108	6,271	1,112	245	171	10	94	2,569	3,807
Rhode Island	9	292	9	292	28	8	19	2	3	129	246
South Dakota	12	191	14	241	111	.....	17	.....	2	75	241
Vermont	31	680	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington	13	257	10	207	15	19	16	1	22	94	173
West Virginia	6	130	6	103	31	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	100
Wisconsin	18	413	16	393	60	4	13	.....	53	88	371
Totals	1,038	30,235	750	23,736	3,275	938	731	42	624	9,956	18,929

The Divisions of the Gulf, Iowa, Kentucky, Oregon and Vermont have failed to report to this department.

Owing to the use of three different forms of blanks, issued to the Divisions at different times, the remainder of the information called for in form 48 of the Commandery-in-Chief blanks is not authoritative. Some of these issues contain 30 questions, another 41, while the last edition has 47. I would recommend that Division surgeons be furnished with and required to use the last printed form of blank prepared by my predecessor, and which contains the larger number of questions.

The Division of Michigan furnishes the oldest member of the Order, his age being seventy-nine. The average ages of the membership shows an increase over last year, an analysis of the reports showing it to be twenty-eight years and four months. The general health of the Order has been good, the average of disability from sickness being about 4.8 per 1000 men.

The Division of New York continues to lead in the number of Camps paying death and sick benefits to their membership. The Camps in the Division of New Jersey pays the largest amount of death benefits, maintaining her average at $275.00. Maryland has the lowest average for sick benefits, the average of five Camps paying such being $1.98.

I desire to thank the surgeons of the various Divisions for their uniform courtesy and my associates on the Commandery-in-Chief staff for their aid in conducting the work of this department. To Adjutant-General Abbott, especially, is this due.

Commander Shepard, I thank you for the honor conferred upon me, and its pleasant relations with the Order and yourself will be a lasting remembrance to me.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. B. McDowell, M.D.
Surgeon-General.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will go to the committee under rule.

The report of the Chaplain-in-Chief is next in order, Brother Morris.

The Chaplain-in-Chief Morris submitted and read the following report: —

REPORT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF.

To Frank L. Shepard, *Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U.S.A.*

Dear Sir and Brother: Another year has gone and with it opportunities never to return. The Grand Army is passing away and what we do must be done quickly. In the last year over 17,000 have dropped from the rolls. Since 1890 the membership of the Grand Army of the Republic has been decreasing. Our membership should be continually increasing.

While there is patriotism in many hearts, there is a lack of it in others. This is proven by the slackness of many Camp Chaplains.

While some are loyal many are officers only in name and we are of the opinion that men should be elected to office instead of names.

We are thankful for the earnest work of all Camp and Division Chaplains. There are but three Division Chaplains this year that failed in sending Memorial Day reports, namely, Colorado, Gulf and Kentucky. Last year there were five.

Some of the Division Chaplains deserve special honors for more than earnest work: Wm. T. Beale of Massachusetts, Rev. J. E. Zeiter of Connecticut, W. T. Hay of Pennsylvania, ———— of California, H. C. Dana of Rhode Island; Massachusetts, California and Rhode Island reporting all Camps reporting. Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania show great and increasing interest in the membership by the proper observance of Memorial Day.

May we not expect an increase in membership during the coming year? Our hearts are fired with new resolves, the flames of patriotism are burning brighter, and in contact with the membership of our Order we can spread the fire and reflect the light of our increasing interest.

In F., C. and L.,

I remain your brother,

REV. A. J. MORRIS,
Chaplain-in-Chief.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF.

Divisions.	Camps in Division.	Members.	Members in Line Memorial Day.	Members Armed and in Line.	Members Uniformed in Line.	Firing Squads.	Addresses by Sons of Veterans.	Members attending Services Memorial Sunday.	Camps observing Union Defenders' Day.	Deaths in last twelve months.	Funerals attended by Camps in a Body.		Burials conducted by Camps.		Camps using Memorial Services.		Camps Reporting.	Camps not Reporting.	Per cent of Camps Reporting.	Reports Received.	Division Chaplains.
											G.A.R.	S.V.	G.A.R.	S.V.	"A"	"B"					
Ala. and Tenn..	11	313	34	15	15	2	3	54	2	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	9	.....	Aug. 25	C. R. Barker
California	15	369	280	69	223	4	6	160	15	3	.....	.....	.....	4	1	.....	15	.....	100	Aug. 23	.....
Colorado	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Connecticut .. .	26	752	383	77	324	4	8	326	6	6	.....	3	.....	1	5	3	25	1	96	Aug. 5	Rev. J. E. Zeiter
Gulf	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Illinois	76	1,411	896	381	407	19	16	734	25	9	48	9	.....	8	.....	8	44	32	57	Aug. 11	J. Henry Sidders
Indiana	60	762	508	103	204	14	26	363	9	3	34	3	4	3	3	7	29	31	48	Aug. 17	D. E. Blankenship
Iowa	42	716	276	9	9	3	13	245	.....	1	7	1	1	.....	.....	.....	16	26	38	June 27	A. L. Sartor, Jr.
Kansas	59	1,104	709	187	239	21	22	646	9	8	18	7	1	5	5	13	52	7	88	July 13	O. R. Stevens
Kentucky	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maine	46	1,133	626	142	494	6	14	429	13	11	2	7	.....	3	3	5	36	10	78	June 16	H. I. Holt
Maryland	60	456	195	90	126	5	10	180	9	7	8	7	.....	5	2	2	20	40	33	July 12	Cecil C. Hahn
Massachusetts ..	121	3,729	2,696	551	2,519	17	28	2,006	39	31	21	24	1	8	11	13	121	.....	100	July 13	Wm. T. Beale
Michigan	50	.....	327	145	242	8	8	254	9	8	.....	7	.....	3	2	2	19	31	38	June 15	Jerome C. Turner
Minnesota.....	.....	.....	100	116	101	13	5	149	4	2	9	3	.....	1	1	4	12	.....	....	Aug. 14	G. L. Woodworth
Missouri	27	299	129	30	89	3	2	116	4	1	1	1	.....	1	3	2	12	15	.....	Aug. 22	Jno. C. Berthold
Nebraska.....	18	230	160	66	44	3	4	169	3	2	1	.....	.....	.....	3	1	14	4	77	July 22	R. B. Kellogg
New Hampshire.	22	.....	370	69	322	.....	7	279	7	4	3	3	.....	2	2	2	18	4	82	Aug. 14	F. S. Libbey
New Jersey	24	788	483	327	428	10	10	385	11	16	35	6	.....	3	1	1	22	2	.....	Aug. 22	Jno. P. Schneider
New York.....	116	3,373	1,923	785	1,482	24	44	1,604	45	22	70	29	6	10	15	24	101	15	87	July 31	C. F. Sherman
Ohio	.....	853	542	262	410	10	19	433	10	6	12	5	1	.....	6	9	30	.....	.....	July 3	H. D. Ketcham
Oregon	.....	63	43	.....	8	2	2	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	June 23	L. P. Bennett
Pennsylvania ...	156	2,829	3,345	1,656	2,614	76	111	2,583	63	44	176	41	11	33	8	16	114	42	.....	Aug. 4	W. T. Hay
Rhode Island....	9	305	222	127	303	3	.....	175	.....	2	1	2	.....	2	2	2	9	.....	100	June 24	Herbert C. Dana
South Dakota...	14	247	102	9	14	2	.....	74	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	5	.....	Aug. 11	C. R. Fisher
Vermont	34	377	239	39	159	3	5	195	5	3	2	3	1	2	2	4	17	17	.....	June 26	Fred V. Fuller
Washington	18	592	168	99	78	10	4	132	5	2	3	1	1	.....	1	3	17	1	94	July 4	Spencer S. Snlliger
West Virginia...	.....	118	103	8	34	.....	1	80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	July 26	W. H. Williams
Wisconsin	23	392	157	48	63	4	3	97	5	4	9	4	.....	3	3	.....	17	6	.....	Aug. 23	J. W. Ames
Totals	1,027	43,911	14,916	5,380	10,951	266	371	11,921	318	196	464	167	27	97	79	121	780	298	.....		

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Chaplain-in-Chief will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

The next business in order is the report of the Council-in-Chief. Brother Haycraft of the Council-in-Chief will read the report.

Brother J. E. Haycraft, Secretary of the Council-in-Chief, submitted and read the following report: —

REPORT OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

To the Officers and Members of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment of Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., Greeting: —

Brothers: The Council-in-Chief begs leave herewith to present its report of its proceedings and transactions during the past year. Immediately upon adjournment of the Seventeenth Annual Encampment held at Omaha, Neb., the Council was organized by the election of H. H. Hammer of the Pennsylvania Division as chairman, and J. E. Haycraft of the Minnesota Division as secretary.

The bond of Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard was fixed to be in the sum of $10,000, and the bond of Quartermaster-General Fred E. Bolton to be in the sum of $5,000; both of which were subsequently approved by said Council after proper inquiry as to the sureties.

Under date of June 9, 1899, by a unanimous vote of this Council, the date of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment was fixed to be Sept. 6, 7, 8 and 9, 1899.

We have carefully audited the books and accounts of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General, all of which we found correct, well and neatly kept, and have certified the same on the respective books thereof. The financial management of the Commandery-in-Chief has been conducted in a manner which is highly deserving of praise and commendation and we do herewith recommend the bestowal of the same. We deem it superfluous to refer to the excellent report and comparative statements of the Quartermaster-General, as they are self-explanatory.

We recommend that the *per capita* tax remain as it now is — four cents per quarter.

In the matter of badges, decorations and supplies for the Order, which is now a question of consideration for this Encampment, owing to the death of Maj. A. P. Davis, by which all contracts, either expressed or implied, for such badges, decorations and supplies, as filled by him, now cease. The interests of the Order, in our judgment, now demands that the Commandery-in-Chief deal direct in supplying the badges, decorations and such supplies as were previously furnished the Order by Major Davis. We feel that the profits, if any, should rightfully only be realized by the Order and in future by no one else. We therefore recommend that the badges and decorations be purchased by the Quartermaster-General; that proposals or bids be secured for the supplying, furnishing or manufacture of the same; that the lowest responsible bidder always be given the contract; that dies or cuts of our decoration badges and such other badges as may

be necessary, be procured by the Quartermaster-General, and that the price of supplying the same be at a fair profit.

We recommend that the incoming Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General be constituted a committee to design and supply a new buttonhole decoration for the Order, and that the same be more expressive and symbolic of the Order.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

H. H. HAMMER, *Chairman*,
J. E. HAYCRAFT, *Secretary*,
GEO. E. COX, *S. V.-Commander-in-Chief*,
Z. C. GREEN, *J. V.-Commander-in-Chief*.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Council-in-Chief will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports under the rule. What is the further pleasure of the Encampment?

RECESS TILL TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

A. S. Moulthrop of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move that the Encampment do now take recess until 2 o'clock P.M.

Schuyler Tipton of Indiana: Commander, I second the motion.

The motion was agreed to and the Commandery-in-Chief took recess until 2 o'clock P.M.

FRIDAY — AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 o'clock P.M.

Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

Commander-in-Chief: The brothers will come to order. If it is your pleasure, we will receive the committee from the Ladies' Aid Society before the formal opening of the Encampment. Immediately after the reception of the committee from the Ladies' Aid Society, we will proceed with the opening of the Encampment and the business of the afternoon session. I will appoint as a committee to escort the ladies to the platform: Past Chaplain-in-Chief Patton of Wisconsin, Rev. Otho Brandt of Pennsylvania, Surgeon-General McDowell of Wisconsin, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief Cox, and Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief Green. The committee will retire and escort the delegation from the Ladies' Aid Society to this platform.

RECEPTION OF COMMITTEE FROM LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

The committee retired and returned, escorting Mrs. Margaret Howey Coe, Miss Kate G. Raynor, Miss Jones and Mrs. Warren to the platform.

Past Chaplain-in-Chief Patton: Commander, I have the honor of presenting to you and to this Encampment a committee of ladies from our sister society, to tender to us their fraternal greetings: Mrs. Coe, Miss Raynor, Miss Jones and Mrs. Warren.

Mrs. Coe: Commander-in-Chief, we are a committee appointed by the Ladies' Aid Society to bring you the following message: —

DETROIT, MICH., Sept. 8, 1899.

To the Officers and Members of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment of Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., Greeting.

In accordance with time-honored custom, which makes our duty imperative, we appear before you this afternoon to extend to you some evidence of our fraternal regard. Notwithstanding the fact that year after year someone is called to perform this duty, we desire to assure you that we do not regard it in any sense as compulsory, but on the contrary, it is always performed with an increased sense of pleasure born of gratitude to you for the good cheer you always bring to these our annual gatherings.

More, perhaps, this year than ever before, do we feel the blessedness of your presence. Your hopeful faces to encourage, your merry laugh to enlighten and your conversation to entertain. But let it be understood, that our greeting has for its foundation a deeper stratum. Transitory, indeed, would be our love were it not more firmly laid than the mere pleasure of the hour. Erected as our Orders are upon the firm basis of the Union, we can but call you brothers and as brothers love you, and loving you, tender to you our most hearty support in carrying out the purposes and objects of your Order.

We wish you a profitable and harmonious Encampment, a prosperous future and all the pleasures consistent with the laws of our being, and as we continue to meet and greet each other in these Encampments, may our friendship grow stronger, our charity broader and our loyalty more unflinching.

So once again we give you greeting,
And, lest we be misunderstood,
Repeat that we are with you, brothers,
For all that is loyal, grand and good.

[Applause.]

God bless you, boys! Accept our greetings. Your merits claim our good wishes and best love.

MARGARET HOWEY COE,
KATE G. RAYNOR,
Committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: Before we express our gratification at receiving this visit and the greetings from the Ladies' Aid Society, we would be delighted to hear from Miss Raynor.

The Commander-in-Chief also called upon Miss Jones and Mrs. Warren, who kindly responded.

The Commander-in-Chief: Ladies, it is an honor, indeed, for our organization to be associated with so worthy and so noble a society as the Ladies' Aid Society, a society that was organized, like our own, to preserve the institutions and keep green the memories of our fathers and our fathers' comrades, the boys in blue, who to heart beat and drum beat carried our glorious flag through the darkest days of the Republic. In order that the response to your generous greeting may be adequate, I will invite Past Chaplain-in-Chief Patton of Wisconsin to discharge that pleasant duty.

Past Chaplain-in-Chief Patton: Commander-in-Chief and Sisters of the Ladies' Aid Society, I scarcely know why our Commander-in-Chief has delegated to me so honorable a task, and perhaps he does not know — maybe he does — that I have always felt, and maybe I have been a little proud and self-conscious of the fact, that I have always been successful with the ladies, and a little incident which occurred early in my career may, perhaps, have made me conceited;

but the fact is, that the first woman I ever asked to marry me said yes. [Laughter.] I have always felt a little conceited since that time, though perhaps not correctly.

We are glad to greet you here and meet you here this afternoon. We are glad to listen to your words of warm and affectionate welcome and Godspeed. We have heard your voices before. We have seen your faces before, we know that you mean all that you say, and we know that, as you have been pleased to express it, so we may reciprocally express it, that we love you, and when we say that you know that we mean it in the highest and purest sense; and that we may say of you, our sisters of the Ladies' Aid Society, as one worthier than I has said: —

> "She isn't an angel, she isn't a goddess,
> She isn't a lily, a rose or a pearl,
> She is simply what's sweeter, completer and neater,
> A dear little, queer little, sweet little girl."

[Applause.]

So we bear to you our greetings, recognizing that you occupy this position relative to us. We look upon you as our sisters in a high sense, and feel that we are encouraged and made better by the cordial greetings which come to us year after year from your society and from your hearts. I remember a certain theologian and philosopher, St. Paul, said once upon a time that if a woman would learn anything, let her ask her husband at home. Brothers, would they learn much? [Laughter.] And besides, how would it be with those who have no husbands? [Laughter. A voice: "Let her get one."] You are learning in the practice of worldly affairs; you are learning, perhaps, something which your prospective husbands will wish you had not learned, when you come with them to Encampments in future years. Nevertheless, you are learning to be practical and it is the practical woman who is to control the future. We recognize the fact that the woman of today has a controlling hold upon the future of the race. We see her controlling influence in the schools; we see that she does control and mould the intellect and heart of the race there. We know that woman controls the race in the home. We see today in the business world that woman is taking her rightful place with the men of the world, and she is holding her own in this position. We learn that there are no less than 25,000 lady physicians practising medicine in this country and more than 3,000,000 women in this country are earning their own living entirely, and no less than 2,700 women are supporting their husbands in the city of New York; which is a blessed prospect for many bachelors, such as are on the front row in this room. [Laughter and applause.]

In all these things we see that woman is pushing her way to the front and controlling the future, and we recognize that woman has and does in a great degree control the heart and conscience of Christendom.

The heart and conscience of Christendom is in the hands of woman. It is right that it should be. We are glad that it is so; we feel safe in leaving it there, and we feel safe in leaving with you our goodwill and sympathy with reference to our Order. We believe that the heart and conscience of our Order are safe in your keeping and that you are

in sympathy with everything which is for the interest of the Order, for the propagation of patriotism, for the development of the patriotic spirit, just as much so as were your mothers and relatives in the days of the Rebellion, when they gave their husbands and their sons to go out and do battle against the enemy. I am convinced of this. And, brothers, when we are looking forward and considering the question as to who is to be the coming man, I am convinced that we are not looking in the right direction; for the coming man I am convinced, as I study this question and as I hear the greetings of these sisters year after year and see them and their sisters and the progress they are making in the ways of the world, I am convinced, as I say, that the coming man will not be a man, but a woman. [Laughter and applause.]

To you we extend our heartiest greeting and love and affection, and hand in hand and heart to heart we will press forward. If God spares us to meet another year we hope that we will see in both Orders that development and progress we each so earnestly desire and are so earnestly laboring to bring about.

May God bless you in all your labors! [Applause.]

Mrs. Coe: Commander-in-Chief, we have enjoyed our visit very much. We appreciate your very hospitable entertainment, but, as we have business and you have business to transact, if you will excuse us, we will retire.

The committee from the Ladies' Aid Society retired, escorted by the committee; and the Encampment was opened in due form.

Commander-in-Chief: The Adjutant-General will proceed with the call of the roll.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I move that the calling of the roll be dispensed with.

C. J. Deckman of Ohio: Commander, I second the motion.

The motion was agreed to and the calling of the roll dispensed with.

The Commander-in-Chief: The first order of business this morning is the report of the Committee of Constitution, Rules and Regulations. Is the chairman of that committee present? He does not respond. Is the Committee on Rituals and Ceremonies ready to report, Past Division Commander McGuire?

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RITUALS AND CEREMONIES.

Past Division Commander McGuire, Chairman of the Committee on Rituals and Ceremonies, submitted and read the following report: —

To the Eighteenth Annual Encampment Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.:

We, your Committee on Rituals and Ceremonies, beg leave to make the following report: —

We recommend that no amendments or alterations whatever be made to the present Ritual.

NEWTON J. MCGUIRE,
B. PRACK,
E. H. ARCHER,
F. W. BRIGGS,
GEORGE S. WHITMORE,
Committee on Rituals.

S. S. Horn of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move that the report of the Committee on Rituals and Ceremonies be adopted as read.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, I second the motion, adding to it that the committee be discharged with the thanks of this Encampment.

The motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is General Bundy, Chairman of the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work, present? Brother Bundy does not seem to be here.

Brothers of the Encampment, while we have a few moments at this time it occurs to me that it would be well to avail ourselves of the opportunity thus afforded us of hearing from our Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling, who was absent from our last year's Encampment by reason of his services in the Spanish-American war. I will ask Inspector-General to escort Past Commander-in-Chief Darling to the platform. [Applause.]

The Inspector-General: Commander, Past Commander-in-Chief Darling does not seem to be in the hall.

The Commander-in-Chief: I think the Inspector-General can find him.

Geo. N. Howard of Massachusetts: Commander, while we are waiting I would like to make a report from the committee appointed to convey our greetings to the Ladies' Aid Society and ask for the discharge of that committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: While the Inspector-General is finding Past Commander-in-Chief Darling, we will hear the report from the Committee on Greetings to the Ladies' Aid Society, Commander Howard of Massachusetts, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GREETINGS TO LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

George N. Howard of Massachusetts: Commander, with becoming modesty and whatever tact we possess we performed the duty assigned to us which was, I assure you, an exceedingly pleasant one, and proceeded to the Encampment of the Ladies' Aid Society. We were warmly received and hospitably entertained, treated as only the Ladies' Aid knows how to treat Sons of Veterans. I conveyed to them your appreciation of their efforts in the past, your goodwill towards their Order as such, and also assured them of our confidence in them, of our respect for them and our desire that together we might co-operate in bringing the Orders to the position which they ought to attain.

I move you, sir, that the committee be now discharged.

The Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection that order will be made as the order of this Encampment and the committee will be discharged with the thanks of this Encampment.

If the Encampment desires we will now hear from the committee appointed by direction of the 1896 Encampment to consider and report upon the advisability of founding a military college. The chairman of the committee, A. L. Sortor, Jr., of Iowa, is here, and if he is ready to report we will listen to the report of that committee.

A. L. Sortor, Jr., of Iowa, Chairman of the Committee on Military College, appointed by the order of the 1897 Encampment, submitted and read the following report: —

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MILITARY COLLEGE.

Gen. Frank L. Shepard, *Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U.S.A.*

Sir: The Committee on Military College, appointed by order of the Indianapolis Encampment of 1896, has the honor to report as follows: —

First, we desire to express our appreciation of the favor shown in permitting us to report at this time because of the absence of Captain Wren and Captain Sortor from the Omaha Encampment, owing to military duties as officers in the volunteer army of the United States.

Previous to the declaration of war in 1898, we sent through Division headquarters a communication to each Camp in the Order, asking in substance this question: "Would you favor the founding of a National Military College by the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., as a memorial to the soldiers of the Union army in the Civil War, provided it was amply endowed and properly managed?"

This question was propounded in order to obtain an expression from the Camps and to ascertain the sentiment of the Order at large, provided the practicability of the proposition could be demonstrated.

At the same time press slips were sent through the same channels and the enterprise was commended by the leading papers in nearly every State.

Replies to the inquiry submitted to the Camps were numerous. None were hostile to the proposition, some asked for more information, while a vast majority unhesitatingly commended the idea as a worthy one and offered to assist, should the movement be approved by the Commandery-in-Chief.

In fact, from every source the same opinion was expressed and every one agreed that no greater or more lasting memorial could be reared. All agreed that this movement should be headed by the sons of men whose valor it was designated to recognize and whose memory it sought to perpetuate.

Cities offered to bonus the college in consideration of securing its location, the general public approved and wealthy men promised to assist it financially; kindred patriotic bodies suggested co-operation, and in the good State of Iowa the last half hour of the session of our legislature was consumed in passing a resolution commending the Order for its practical patriotism in proposing the founding of this institution, inviting us to locate in the State and saying in substance that a building should be erected as a memorial to Iowa's boys in the Civil War. Then a half million dollars were placed in the governor's hands to be used in sending us into the field, and the session adjourned.

We have failed to encounter any opposition to the founding of a great National military college, designed to inculcate the principles of patriotism for which our fathers fought, and to be a memorial to their valor.

For fear its practicability might be questioned before a fair investigation was made, the friends of the enterprise went to Indianapolis and simply asked the appointment of this committee to investigate its merits and report some feasible plan for the establishment of an institution worthy of this Order and the men it seeks to honor.

We asked this, too, that all might have ample time for reflection and that the combined wisdom of all might mature a plan so perfect that it could not fail of adoption. We believed then as now that this proposition meant so much for the Order that its ultimate consummation was to be desired and its success should not be imperiled by hasty action.

In submitting a plan for your consideration it is with a full realization of the immensity of the enterprise and of the responsibility attending the undertaking.

This report is not made without due consideration of all of the difficulties to be encountered in achieving so grand a result. It is made only after years of careful study, and of two years of official inquiry. The proposition has been viewed from every possible standpoint, historical, educational, financial, legal, military, moral, religious, fraternal, patriotic; viewing it from each of these standpoints, the best authorities in the land have been consulted, and all agree that a feasible plan can be presented.

All agree that the Order is capable of taking advantage of the desire of the American people to honor the memory of our soldier sires, and carry forward to success this great enterprise. We do not believe that so great a work can be accomplished without years of labor upon the part of men who are true to the vows of this Order.

But we do believe that the Order is now composed of men of discretion and ability, fully capable of founding and conducting the affairs of so grand an institution as has been proposed.

We therefore have the honor to recommend that this Order approve the suggestion that we found a National Military College, dedicated to the memory of the soldiers of the Union Army in the Civil War, and to the loyal women of war times.

That the present Commander-in-Chief be instructed to appoint a committee of five whose duties it shall be to receive propositions from localities desiring to secure the location of this institution, and to superintend the circulation of conditional pledges for financial support. That these pledges be made payable to the Quartermaster General of this Order on Oct. 1, 1900, provided a sufficient amount is pledged to warrant proceeding with the work.

That these conditional pledge blanks be circulated under the supervision of the committee, through the medium of the various Divisions and Camps, and same to be collected and produced at the time of making report, but that no funds be collected until after the incorporation of the necessary college association. That this committee consider location and report the propositions made by localities desiring to secure the College, and that the matter of location be determined by ballot at the next annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

That this committee serve without salary or expense to the

Order, but that it be allowed to state its probable needs, financially, to the Camps and various Divisions, and that the Quartermaster-General be authorized to receive voluntary contributions to an expense fund for the use of this committee.

That the reception of the report of this committee be made a special order of business at our next annual meeting, and if it shall appear that the committee have secured sufficient pledges of financial support to warrant proceeding with the work, that a location be selected and the necessary corporation be formed under the laws of the State wherein the college is to be located, for the purpose of owning the necessary property and conducting the affairs of the college.

That this college be under the direction of five regents, one of whom shall be the governor of the State in which it is located, one to be the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., and the other three to be chosen by ballot at the next annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, the first to serve three years, the second, two years, the third, one year, and that thereafter one elective regent be chosen by ballot at each annual meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief, to serve for the term of three years.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. & L.,

A. L. Sortor, Jr., Iowa,
Manly Wren, Missouri,
Geo. E. Cox, Connecticut,
Herbert O. Bixby, Vermont,
Committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brothers, we have here the report of the committee. What is your pleasure?

George S. Whitmore of Maryland: Commander, I move that the report of the committee be adopted and the same committee be continued to pursue that work.

The motion was seconded.

Adjutant-General Abbott: Commander, I would move to amend that motion in one particular as I think some of the present committee are not *come-at-able*. I certainly would be in favor of Brother Sortor being continued as chairman of that committee, but I would suggest that possibly there might be some additions to it that would be more helpful to him in this work.

George S. Whitmore of Maryland: Commander, with the consent of the second to my motion, I will withdraw that part of it, and leave the appointment of the entire committee with the Encampment, as recommended by the committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: The second consents to the amendment, and the question is now upon the adoption of the report of the committee as read.

The motion was agreed to and the report of the committee adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there anything further to come before the Encampment?

[Cries of "Thurston," "Thurston," "Thurston."]

The Commander-in-Chief: Brothers of the Encampment, we have with us at this session of our Encampment our distinguished constitutional life member, Senator John M. Thurston of Nebraska. I will ask the Quartermaster-General to escort Senator Thurston to the platform that he may address us. [Applause.] Our constitutional life member and our brother needs no introduction to the membership of this Encampment, Senator Thurston. [Great applause.]

SENATOR THURSTON'S ADDRESS.

Senator Thurston: Commander-in-Chief and brothers, I am a most unfortunate member of this Order to-day. I have fallen in with some of my associates of the K.O.C., and I appear before you very much in line with the story that I heard of the old pastor of the Presbyterian Church. He had been married a great many years and was childless, and it happened that his church was very much in debt, and every Sunday morning he raised his voice in prayer and petitioned the Lord for two great blessings: one was that his blessed church might be placed out of debt, and the other was that his wife would bless him with a son. Well, years passed by and the petition went up regularly. Finally, as they met one Sunday morning the whole congregation heard the news that a rich parishioner had died and left a bequest that lifted the debt of the church, and also that the pastor's wife had blessed him with a son; and as they gathered in church there was great interest taken as to what the pastor would say. Some said, "He will thank God that the church has been relieved from debt." Others said, "He will thank God that his wife has given him a son." And the excitement became very intense, and the old elders got into a little betting down the aisles; and finally, the pastor arose and lifted his hands and said, "O God, we thank thee for the *succor* thou hast given us" and all bets were off. [Laughter.] So I have no doubt that you are thanking God for the "sucker" He has given you.

But, seriously, brothers, I am very glad to meet with you here to-day. Since you did me the honor of electing me as a life member of this splendid organization, I have registered a vow that as long as I live and have health I will be with you at every Encampment, [Applause] not for the purpose of making speeches, because I am tired of making speeches. I have to make speeches everywhere — but simply to be one of you, to get close to you, as the old fellow said, to get right up where we can put our arms around each other. I am not here to make a speech. Speechmaking is more or less out of place. You are here for business and for the work of the Order, and anything I can do to assist you in the work of the Order I will gladly do as an humble brother. I have not done much in the way of assisting this Order. I have been a busy man in outside affairs. The most I can give you is my best wishes, my help wherever it will be of any importance, and Godspeed in this splendid work.

We have a great heritage. We have inherited the valor of our ancestors, and whether in our lifetime we have an opportunity to emulate their example we will still carry forward to posterity the glory of their achievements. We live in a great time. We are a part of a

grand historical epoch in this republic, this republic that stands as the leader of the civilization and enlightenment of the world. Our fathers fought a great fight. They won great victories. They live in history. Their names are glorified and we are living in a great historical time. We have been making history, you and I; some of us in the field, some in the forum, some in private life; but we have all been working to one great end, the uplifting of humanity, the advancement of civilization, the downfall of tyranny and oppression.

I was wonderfully impressed the other day when our First Nebraska Regiment came back from the Philippines. [Applause.] I was wonderfully impressed because in my own lifetime I remember two historical events in which the boys came back from war, war for the flag that symbolizes liberty and enlightenment. Many of the sons of the fathers who transmitted to us the heritage of glory have gone out in this last year to fight as the fathers fought, under the flag, and thank God! they have brought back to us the same grand measure of achievement that our fathers brought back to us from Appomattox. [Applause.] Not all of them came back. Some of them were left on foreign shores. Some of them gave their lives as our fathers gave theirs, and as my father gave his, for the honor of the flag. Some of them are at rest forever; and, gentlemen we do not mourn. To live long neutral lives is nothing. To live a few glorious years and fearlessly face the Infinite, to calmly meet the Master in humanity's cause is sublime. [Applause.] And so when our boys, my boys—because Company L of the First Nebraska was named for me, the "Thurston Rifles,"—when they came home I said to them the other night, and I said it with all my heart, that in greeting them from victories won, the emotions were so strangely and wonderfully blended that for the heroic living there were tears in our cheers, and for the heroic dead there were cheers in our tears. [Applause.] And I said to them one other thing that I will repeat here today because this is a patriotic organization without politics in it [Applause], simply mindful of the welfare of our country, its honor and its glory — I said to them as I say now, that we welcomed them because they were brave, yes, but I said to them that all soldiers had been brave since the beginning of time. Those who fought against our fathers were brave and gave exhibitions of heroism that will live forever. The soldiers that have fought for tyranny and oppression and conquest and dominion have been brave ever since the world began, and it is not for that we honor them the most. Soldiers will live in history not for their valor but for the cause for which they fought. [Applause.] That is why our fathers live illustrious, undying, in the annals of fame, and that is why the soldier boys who have gone out from this organization and have fought in Cuba and in the Philippines will live in the glory of history. [Applause.] Because they have fought for a great cause. [Applause.] And I said to them as I say now, that any man, whoever he may be, who attempts to belittle or traduce the cause for which our brave boys have fought, robs them of a part of the glory that history will give them. [Great applause.]

The United States of America has never waged a war for conquest or dominion. [Applause, and cries of "Never."] It never fought except for some grand and glorious thing. [Applause.] Our grand-

fathers fought first for independence for the liberty of men. Then we waged the Mexican War, not for conquest, but that the people of the Lone Star State might have the God-given right to come in under the flag of the Union and participate in the liberty of the people of the United States. [Applause, and cries "That's right."] Before that we fought on the sea, from 1812 to 1814, simply for the right of American citizens; that the deck of an American ship might be American soil wherever it was. [Applause.] In 1861 to 1865 we fought that liberty, God-given, might come to all alike within the boundaries of the grand Republic of the new world. And then in 1898 we fought for a sublimer cause than ever yet was answered for by man; for the nation had never risen to the contemplation of a great national duty that should extend beyond the borders of their own dominion. But we had set the example of liberty for the new world. We had said that liberty was God-given; we by our example had set the pace for the other peoples of the new world; and when we saw them struggling for liberty against tyranny and oppression, tyranny and oppression unparalleled in the annals of civilization, we arose to the new duty and new obligation that nations had never before known, and that was, that a great free people might extend its blessings beyond its own territory and lift up its neighbors into the light of civilization and progress and liberty and advancement. [Applause.] And if there is any one heritage that I wish to transmit to my son it is that in spite of all costs I stood for giving the great power of the United States to the people of Cuba, to lift them up and bring them into liberty and civilization. [Applause.]

Well, when the war was on,— and it was a holy war, a God-sent war, a war for liberty, and liberty knows no boundaries, it knows no fences, the sea does not circumscribe it, it reaches and flows over and beyond us like the benediction of God — when we were at war with a foreign foe, we struck the enemy at a vital point, and Dewey sailed into the harbor of Manila and sank the Spanish fleet. I will not say a word of politics here. This is an American question. When Dewey sailed in there and sank that fleet, when we struck Spain at her weakest point,— there are those who say we should have retired. If we had, brothers, the Spanish War, in my judgment, would have been going on yet. [Cries of "Yes, it would."] That was Spain's great possession. It was the key to the citadel of her defence. Through war, for war, to accomplish the victory of our arms we remained there; and when peace came the duty of a great nation, in my judgment, required that we should not turn the Philippines back to the ruthless tyranny and oppression of the power against which we had fought for the liberty of Cuba [Applause]; and not of our own will, not for conquest, not for dominion, not for expansion; we were compelled by logic of events, by the broadening horizon of the nation's destiny to take that country from Spanish rule, and taking it, for any purpose whatever, we were compelled to take the sovereignty of it. If we had taken less we would have no rights there against foreign nations. If we had taken less we would have had no power left to control the destiny of that people; and having taken it, the sovereignty of the nation extended to these islands; and when

Aguinaldo and his band of guerrillas, representing not the Philippine population, but simply a minority bent upon plunder, rapine and pillage, when they fired on the American flag there was nothing for the United States to do except to suppress them and bring them to acknowledge its authority and supremacy. [Great applause.] And that is our foreign policy; not expansion, not dominion, not conquest. But the world is looking on, and we have a great duty to perform. That is to bring peace into those islands and then settle the policy of their future according to the best dictates of the American conscience. [Applause.] To do less is cowardly. I have no objection to hauling down the American flag when it can be done in honor, and under peaceful conditions. I have no objection to sailing away from foreign possessions when we can leave with honor. But, never, never will the American flag be hauled down, so long as the sons of our fathers live, until it can be hauled down in honor and with the integrity of the United States unimpaired.

And now while I am in Detroit, not to intrench upon your time, I wish to say one word for a citizen of this city, and that is General Alger; and what I say is not political; I wish to say it from the American standpoint. I have known General Alger for a great many years and I had an exceptional opportunity to watch his administration of the War Department. Our War Department at the opening of this war was unfortunate, not through any lack of patriotism on the part of the officers in charge, but our War Department was a red tape department, the growth of thirty-three years of peace, controlling an army of twenty-five thousand men, requiring seventeen reports on the purchase of a pail, with every head of that department supreme in his own line and absolutely not subordinate to the direction of the Secretary of War. I watched that man Alger in the War Department all the way through. Whatever a strong, brave, honest man could do, he did. [Applause.] I know it. I say it. Whatever shortcoming there was was the shortcoming of a condition for which he was not responsible, and for which no other man was responsible; and when he was the target of all attack and of all abuse, when all the shafts of malice were aimed at him it was because they did not dare strike at the head of this administration, and they picked him out as the object. [Applause, and cries of "That's right."] Everything honorable and commendable that mortal man could do, he did. Think of it! What do you expect? A War Department! Thirty-three years of peace! Red tape! Twenty-five thousand men! War declared! In ninety days — the most wonderful thing in the history of the world — in ninety days, we raised a great army, sprung from the body of the people north and south, the sons of our fathers, and the sons of the fathers who fought against our fathers, all joining equally in loyalty to the flag, and desire for the glory of their country; in ninety days we raised this great army, and with seventeen thousand men, landed on the coast of Cuba, we compelled the unconditional surrender of two-hundred and twenty-five thousand men in arms. [Applause.]

And when public sentiment has settled, when history is written, side by side with the glory of the achievement of American arms, side

by side with the patriotism and statesmanship of this administration, side by side will stand the name of Russel A. Alger as the great Secretary of War. [Applause].

Now, boys, I have talked too long. God bless you. [Cries of "No," "No," "No," "Go on," "Go on."] No, I have talked too long. You have business to transact. [Cries of "This is good business."] Well, then, I shall venture a little prediction. War in the east, as we call it, the Philippines, depends upon seasons. Someone said we ought to have crushed that rebellion before this. That rebellion came to us unexpectedly. We could not anticipate it. We had no army there to meet it. The volunteers we had there did splendidly, wonderfully, but nature intervened, the rainy season, when all military operations practically cease, came on; but let me predict that the next fair season in the Philippines will see peace restored there, and the Army of the Union triumphant, the flag respected throughout the world, and then? What then? I do not know, but we will settle that question to suit ourselves [Applause]; whether it be annexation, whether it be the establishment of a government by those people under a protectorate, no man knows. One thing, however, is true, gentlemen. They talk about the rights of a people. In this advanced day civilization has the right of way over barbarism. [Applause.] We stand for civilization [Applause] and never in the history of the United States has American power deprived a man in any part of the world of a single scintilla of the liberty that belonged to him, and it never will. It never will. I do not know what the future may bring forth. No man does. I have been an arrant conservative. I protested even against the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands. I was somewhat of that past generation that thought the oceans bounded the destiny of the people of the United States. I am commencing to doubt the wisdom of my former view. [Applause.] God sets a pace for nations and men must follow [Applause]; and having the blessings which we enjoy, if the God of the universe has set upon us the task of bearing liberty and civilization to distant lands, I will be the last man to stand up and kick against God Almighty. [Applause.]

That is all I have to say now. We tackle these things as they come along [Cries of "That is right"] and there is no body of men on all this earth who will help do it with the same valor, with the same earnestness and the same honesty as the sons of the men who fought for the flag of the Union, and who brought liberty to a great race and union to the American people by the surrender at Appomattox. [Great applause, and prolonged cheering.]

THANKS TO SENATOR THURSTON.

J. D. Rowen of Iowa: Commander, I move you sir, that the thanks of the Encampment be voted to our distinguished brother, Hon. John M. Thurston, for his eloquent and patriotic address, and that his brothers of this Encampment extend to him their sincere and heartfelt sympathy in the great affliction that was visited upon him when that noble woman from the State of Nebraska, his wife and companion, whose light went

out in yonder Cuba, was called from his side to cross the silent River of Death.

The motion was seconded.

Commander-in-Chief: It has been moved and seconded that we tender our sincere thanks to Senator Thurston for the splendid address he has given us, and express our tribute to the memory of his noble wife and companion. In putting this question I will ask for a rising vote. All those in favor of the motion will so signify by rising to their feet.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

The Commander-in-Chief: Senator Thurston, we thank you for your presence here, and we thank you for the splendid address you have given us; and I know I voice the sentiment of every brother here when I say that we wish for you many, many years of life; and not only length of years do we wish for you, but that measurement of time in which you may most live and best for yourself and for this whole country of ours which claims you as its own. [Applause.]

E. W. Estes of New York: Commander, I certainly think this Encampment would like to see Senator Thurston's address given to the press of this city, and trust that it may strike the Commander-in-Chief as a proper thing to instruct the Press Committee to see that that is done.

The Commander-in-Chief: The chairman of the Press Committee is here and he will confer with Senator Thurston. The Senator's remarks have been recorded by the reporter, and the chairman of the Press Committee will carry out the wishes of that committee. With the permission of Senator Thurston his address will be given to the public press.

Emery Coulter of Massachusetts: Commander, I think the motion of Brother Rowen was not understood by the Chair. I for one would like to have the Encampment pay some tribute to the memory of Mrs. Thurston.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair will state for the information of Brother Coulter that that was included in the motion. The Chair is informed that the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work is now ready to report. General Bundy, chairman of that committee, will submit the report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS, ETC.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, before reading the report of the committee I would state that the committee has been in session altogether for seven hours and the members of the committee report that for that reason they have not been able to attend the sessions of the Commandery-in-Chief, and they ask that they may be recorded as present at each roll call inasmuch as they were only absent by reason of service upon this committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: It is so ordered. It is customary to credit members of committees present when they are out on committee duty.

General Bundy, chairman of the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work, submitted and read the following report:

To the Commander-in-Chief and Officers of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment, S. V., U.S.A.:

Your committee respectfully submits the following report:

We have examined carefully all the reports and recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief, the Council-in-Chief, and other officers, and find the same to be correct, complete, instructive and able; and the officers of the retiring administration deserve the commendation and gratitude of this body for their painstaking care and conscientious discharge of duty as made evident by their reports, which will become important records in the history of our Order.

We have distributed all resolutions and recommendations for changes in the ritual and amendments to the C., R. and R. to the respective committees properly having jurisdiction over the subject matter thereof.

We have examined the General and Special Orders issued and promulgated by Commander-in-Chief Shepard, and the same meet with the approval of the committee as subserving the best interests of the organization, and we recommend that such orders be concurred in and approved.

Your committee approves of all the official decisions of the Commander-in-Chief, with the exception of No. 16, in the matter of the appeal of Daniel Ritter Camp No. 24, Division of Ohio. In this case the committee supports the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, with the recommendation that the Commandery-in-Chief amend Section 2, Article III., Chapter V., Page 52, C., R. and R., by adding thereto the following words: "It shall be unlawful for any Division or Camp, in anticipation of the collection of *per capita* tax, to offset the same against any Camp or Division indebtedness."

In arriving at our conclusion in regard to this case, which is based purely upon the judgment of the committee as to the technical and legal import of the questions involved, we have not considered any matters of fact or propositions of law, except those appearing upon the record. The question here raised is an isolated one and there are no precedents upon which to rely. The committee is of the opinion that the law of the Order is not sufficiently broad or explicit relative to the collection and application of *per capita* tax to justify Decision No. 16 of the Commander-in-Chief, although the principles therein enunciated convince your committee that any practice such as that in this case, wherein a brother sold to his Camp a voucher given to him for a personal indebtedness of the Division, and the succeeding Division Encampment assumed by resolution, and thereafter by partial performance, to pay such voucher by giving credit to said Camp for its *per capita* tax each quarter until the amount of the indebtedness should be liquidated in this manner, is subversive to the best interests of the Order and should be condemned. We have therefore recommended the adoption of the foregoing constitutional amendment in order that this action of the committee, if it should be affirmed by the Com-

mandery-in-Chief, may not become a dangerous precedent to govern any similar proceeding in the future.

(Signed) William E. Bundy,
Charles K. Darling,
J. L. Rake,
George E. Cogshall,
C. T. Orner,
Committee.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I move the adoption of the report.

The motion was seconded.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I desire to move to amend that report in relation to the decision of the Commander-in-Chief in the case of the appeal of Daniel Ritter of Camp No. 24. I desire that that matter may be considered separately.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, with the consent of my second I will accept that amendment, and make my motion that the report of the committee, with the exception of so much thereof as refers to the appeal of Daniel Ritter of Camp No. 24, from the decision of the Commander-in-Chief, be adopted.

The motion as amended was agreed to, and the report of the committee adopted, with the exception of so much thereof as refers to the appeal of Daniel Ritter of Camp No. 24, from the decision of the Commander-in-Chief.

APPEAL OF DANIEL RITTER OF CAMP NO. 24.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I move that the recommendation of the committee in relation to the appeal of Daniel Ritter of Camp No. 24, from the decision of the Commander-in-Chief be not concurred in; and that the decision of the Commander-in-Chief be approved by this Commandery-in-Chief.

Harry Rosenhaupt of Washington: Commander, I second the motion.

After discussion by Past Commander-in-Chief Rake, Past Commander-in-Chief Darling, E. H. Archer, and others:

W. S. Oberdorf of New York: Commander, I move the previous question, and on Brother Archer's motion. I think everybody understands this question, and in order to get it before the house, I move the previous question.

C. A. Bookwalter of Indiana: Commander, I second the motion for the previous question.

Commander-in-Chief: The question before the Encampment is on the motion of Brother Archer, that the recommendation of the committee in relation to the appeal of Daniel Ritter of Camp No. 24, be not concurred in, and that the decision of the Commander-in-Chief be approved by this Encampment. On that question Brother Oberdorf moves the previous question, and the question is, shall the main question be now put. Those in favor of the motion for the previous question will say "Aye." Those opposed "No." The ayes have

it, and the previous question is ordered. The question is now on Brother Archer's motion. All those in favor of the motion will so signify by the voting sign of the Order. Those opposed the same sign. The noes seem to have it. The noes have it, and Brother Archer's motion is not agreed to.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CONCURRED IN.

C. A. Bookwalter of Indiana: Commander, I now move that the recommendation of the committee be concurred in, and the report adopted.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Do I understand now, Commander, that the constitutional amendment is adopted?

The Commander-in-Chief: We will take a separate vote upon that.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, in order that there may be no question as to the adoption of this amendment, I move now, that the amendment as offered by the committee be adopted, and made a part of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

James W. Noel of Indiana: Commander, I second the motion.

The Commander-in-Chief: It is moved and seconded that the Amendment offered by the committee be adopted and made a part of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations. Those in favor of the motion will so signify by the voting sign of the Order. Those opposed the same sign. The ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted by the requisite majority of those present and entitled to vote.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OFFICER'S REPORTS, ETC.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, the Committee on Officers' Reports and Distribution of Work desires to make a supplementary report. It is as follows:

To the Officers and Members of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.:

During its deliberations the committee received information that brothers of the Order have, in some cases, accepted or agreed to accept compensation in their professional capacity, to appear and present causes for their clients, arising before Division and Commandery Encampments, and the committee believes that such practice is generally dangerous, and should not be encouraged or permitted in the future.

(Signed) WILLIAM E. BUNDY, *Chairman.*
CHARLES K. DARLING,
J. L. RAKE,
GEO. E. COGSHALL,
C. T. ORNER, *Committee.*

I move the adoption of the supplementary report.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Now, Commander, that disposes of all the work before the committee, and I would therefore move that the committee be discharged with thanks. [Laughter.]

The Commander-in-Chief: That motion will be taken by consent unless there is objection, and the committee discharged. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and it is so ordered. Is the Committee on Resolutions ready to report, W. Y. Morgan, Chairman?

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

W. Y. Morgan, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, submitted and read the following report:

To the Commandery-in-Chief:

We your Committee on Resolutions beg leave to submit the following report on Resolutions:

We recommend concurrence in the following recommendation of the Illinois Division:

WHEREAS, The publication of the orders and official communications of the Commander-in-Chief in the *Illinois Banner* for the past year has been of benefit to the administration of the affairs of the Order, as well as useful to the many members reached by that paper; therefore be it

Resolved, That the *Illinois Banner* be and it is hereby made the official organ of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., and that William G. Dustin, the publisher, do, in consideration thereof, publish in said paper all orders and official communications of the Commander-in-Chief.

William T. Church of Illinois: Commander, I move the adoption of the resolution offered by the Illinois Division and recommended by the Committee on Resolutions.

The motion was seconded.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, I would suggest that as the report of the Committee on Resolutions proceed, as each resolution is read, if there is no objection, that resolution be considered adopted; and then when the reading of the report is concluded it can be adopted as a whole. That would save considerable time and I make that motion.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, I made that motion as to the balance of the report. I now desire to second Brother Church's motion as to the resolution recommended by the Illinois Division.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair will apply the motion to the resolution already read. If there is no objection it will stand as adopted. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and the resolution reported by the committees is adopted. The chairman will continue the reading of the report, and as each resolution is read, if there is no objection, it will stand as adopted.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report:

PAST RANK OF DIVISION COMMANDER RESTORED TO JAMES E. PURDY.

We recommend concurrence in the following resolution presented by the New York delegation:

DETROIT, MICH., Sept. 8, 1899.

We, the representatives of the New York Division, Sons of Veterans, do respectfully petition the Eighteenth Annual Encampment to restore Brother James E. Purdy his past honors as Commander of New York Division in 1883.

(Signed) RALPH SHELDON, *Commander.*

E. V. ESTES, C. E. HOLMES, W. H. WYKER, W. S. OBERDORF, GEORGE ADDINGTON, Past Commanders, W. A. PERSONIUS, J. FRANK DURSTON, H. P. HOLLISTER, F. P. CONNEL, Delegates.

Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection to this recommendation of the committee? The Chair hears none and the recommendation of the committee is adopted.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report.

PLEDGING THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

We appreciate the friendship which has been shown our Order by the Grand Army of the Republic and we hope for a continuance of the same cordial relations. We hold in the highest regard this organization of our fathers, whose bravery and patriotism it is our fondest hope to keep alive. We pledge the Grand Army our co-operation in their work of charity and loyalty and promise them that the sacrifice they made and the results they accomplished will he held sacred so long as it is in our power.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to the recommendation of the committee just read. The Chair hears none and it will stand adopted.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report:

CONCERNING THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

We commend the good work of our faithful auxiliary, the Ladies' Aid Society. During the years past it has been a companion and helpmate of the Sons of Veterans. We urge upon the Divisions and Camps of our Order that they do all in their power to encourage and stimulate the growth of the Ladies' Aid Society which brings help to us in time of adversity, and adds to the height of happiness that comes with prosperity.

The Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection the recommendation of the committee will stand as adopted. The Chair hears none and it is so ordered.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report:

SONS OF VETERANS VOLUNTEERS IN SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

We congratulate our Order upon the response made by its membership when the call came for volunteers to uphold the honor of the

nation. We are proud of the Sons of Veterans who emulated the example of their fathers and offered their lives in defence of the flag. In doing so they followed the teachings of loyalty and patriotism inculcated by our Order and gave assurance to the world that the men who saved the nation have sons who will die to defend it.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there objection? The Chair hears none and the recommendation of the committee stands.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report:

IN MEMORY OF MAJOR A. P. DAVIS.

Since our last meeting one of the founders of our Order has passed to the eternal camping ground beyond the river. We can but partially express our feeling of loss. As a citizen, as a soldier, and as a promoter of loyalty and patriotism Maj. A. P. Davis has left a record which still lives, a memory which will endure and a work which is a monument to his name.

The Commander-in-Chief: There being no objection, the resolution stands adopted.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report:

IN MEMORY OF HARRY L. VEAZEY.

Death has again entered the ranks of the Commandery-in-Chief and taken from us one of our most loved brothers, Harry L. Veazey, Past Chaplain-in-Chief. His earnest and loyal character endeared him to all who knew him and his memory will be held as a precious heritage in the Sons of Veterans.

The Commander-in-Chief: The resolution stands adopted by this Encampment, there being no objection.

Chairman Morgan resumed the reading of the report:

THE PERVERSION OF MEMORIAL DAY.

We deeply deplore the inclination evinced in many communities to pervert the proper objects of Memorial Day, and divest it of the associations which make it precious and ennobling. It is the duty of the Sons of Veterans, individually and as an organization, as well as that of all good citizens, to direct attention to these un-American and baneful abuses and their inevitable results, to the end that Memorial Day shall be sacredly kept, according to the intention of its originators, and its true spirit; so that it shall be, and forever remain, not a gala day, but a *holy* day.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to this section of the report of the committee? If not it stands adopted as read.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report:

HOSPITALITY OF DETROIT.

The courteous hospitality of the Sons of Veterans of the Division of Michigan and the city of Detroit has been most heartily appreciated by the Commandery-in-Chief, and our stay in this beautiful city has

been thoroughly enjoyed. To these brothers, to the people of Detroit and to the newspapers which have given us fair and friendly reports we desire to extend our sincerest thanks.

The Commander-in-Chief: The resolution stands adopted if there is no objection, and the Chair hears none.

Chairman Morgan resumed the reading of the report:

CONCERNING MANUFACTURE OF BADGES AND DECORATIONS.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief we recommend that in the future all dies, stamps and hubs used in the manufacture of badges be the property of the Commandery-in Chief, and that the matter of supplies for our Order be placed in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General and the Quartermaster-General, and that if found desirable by both parties the Quartermaster-General may furnish supplies for the Ladies' Aid Society heretofore purchased from Major Davis.

The Commander-in-Chief: There being no objection the resolution stands adopted.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report:

DECORATION FOR S.V. VOLUNTEERS OF SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

That the matter of a decoration for members of the Order who served in the Spanish-American War be placed in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General, and they be authorized to proceed with the manufacture and distribution of the medals in accordance with the resolution of the Omaha Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brothers, I desire to state, without making any remarks upon this recommendation, that in my judgment, the resolution of the Omaha Encampment is somewhat ambiguous with reference to the cost of these medals, and as to who shall pay for the medals. If we simply adopt the resolution the next administration may be embarrassed. If the committee has considered the subject in that view and does not consider it ambiguous, I am willing to abide by their view.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I move to amend the report by adding that the decorations be placed upon the list of supplies and furnished to Camps upon requisition upon the Commander of the Division.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I second the motion.

Harry Rosenhaupt of Washington: Commander, I move that the words "Quartermaster-General" be substituted for the words "Commander of the Division."

Harry D. Sisson of Massachusetts: Commander, I move as a substitute motion, that the matter be recommitted to the committee for further consideration.

E. W. Estes of New York: Commander, I desire to second that motion, that the matter be recommitted to the committee for them to report the resolution again with the proper safeguard.

E. S. Bishop of Connecticut: Commander, on behalf of the committee I would state that a careful reading of the resolution will show that the whole matter is left in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant-General and the Quartermaster-General. The committee has given them the power to adopt all the necessary safeguards. I believe the matter may be left safely where the committee left it.

The Commander-in-Chief: That being so, brothers, the suggestion of the Chair was not necessary. However, the question is on the motion to recommit this matter to the Committee on Resolutions. All those in favor of the motion will so signify by the usual voting sign of the Order. Down hands. Those opposed the same sign. The motion seems to be lost. The motion is lost. The question now recurs on Brother Archer's motion that these decorations be placed upon the list of supplies and furnished to Camps upon the recommendation of the Commander of the Division.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, permit me to withdraw my motion.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Archer's motion is withdrawn, with the consent of his second.

E. W. Estes of New York: Now, Commander, I move that the report of the committee be adopted as read.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I second the motion.

The Chair put the question on the motion to adopt the report of the committee, and the motion was agreed to unanimously.

Chairman Morgan continued the reading of the report:

CONCERNING COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF FRANK L. SHEPARD.

This meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief expresses its satisfaction with the work of Frank L. Shepard, who has given the Order such splendid service during the past year as Commander-in-Chief. The Order owes much to the effective, unselfish and able labors of General Shepard and his staff, and they have earned the love and confidence which is in the heart of every brother of the Order.

The Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection this section of the report of the committee will stand as adopted. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and it is so ordered.

Chairman Morgan: Commander, that concludes the report. It is signed by W. Y. Morgan, E. S. Bishop, A. G. Braband, W. A. Morris and R. M. J. Reed. I move the adoption of the report of the committee as a whole.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to, and the report of the committee adopted as a whole.

Adjutant-General Abbott: Commander, I move that the Commandery-in-Chief do now take recess until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: Commander, I second the motion.

E. C. Parkinson of New York: Commander, I hope that motion will be withdrawn for a few moments. A short time ago, during the present session, the Commander-in-Chief directed the Inspector-General

to find a brother whom we all love and bring him to this hall that we might hear whatever message he has to bring us. I think if the Inspector-General were to try to find him at this moment, he would be successful; and as we have a few moments of time now we would like to see that brother and hear him. I trust that the motion to take recess, now before the Commandery-in-Chief, may be held in abeyance for a moment.

Adjutant-General Abbott: Commander, I withdraw my motion for the specific purpose referred to by Brother Parkinson.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Inspector-General will conduct Past Commander-in-Chief Darling to the platform.

Brothers, when I directed the Inspector-General to look for and escort to this platform Past Commander-in-Chief Darling, and he failed to find him, it occurred to the Chair that perhaps Brother Darling had forgotten the password and countersign, and could not get into the hall; [Laughter] but he is here now and we shall keep him. I have the distinguished honor and pleasure of presenting Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling. [Applause.]

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF DARLING'S ADDRESS.

Past Commander-in-Chief Darling: Commander-in-Chief Shepard, and Brothers of the Encampment, I shall keep you but a moment, I assure you, because I know you all want to get away. I come to you from the grand Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Philadelphia, where I was for four days, with the noise of the bands still ringing in my ears, and the fact still in my mind, that forty years after the war, a parade of the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic took something like six hours to pass a given point. Well, of course that army is moving toward the grand beyond, yet we must all bear in mind, that today there is still a great degree of activity left in its membership. When I come out here to this other Encampment of young men, of the vigorous, active men of this Order, I see, of course, a great difference between the two bodies; but I will not dwell upon that, because its contemplation brings to us all a feeling of sadness and sorrow, that the ranks of the old soldiers are thinning out so rapidly and that their step on the march is growing more feeble and infirm.

The thing which after all I wanted to say to you is this: As I sat in my tent about this time last summer, down in the mountains of Porto Rico, looking out upon a scene which, I am bound to say, was not very unlike the picture behind me, for nearly in front of my tent were three palms, almost identical with those which you see there, and the mountains in the background,— possibly the scene was painted for the occasion — as I sat there my thoughts were of this Order. I knew the Encampment was coming on. I knew I could not get away. I knew that I would not be at the Encampment. I had a half-written report which I hoped to send out by the next pack-mule train that started to the sea coast, fifty miles away. I knew it could probably not reach you in time, and later because it could not, it was not sent.

I ask you to believe that the tears ran down my cheeks as I thought of you boys at Omaha, and that perhaps you might have forgotten me, or think your Commander-in-Chief had forgotten you. So I sent by a first lieutenant of the 7th cavalry down the trail, over the mountains, twenty-five miles, a message to be telegraphed from there to Ponce, that it might be sent by cable to you, and when twenty-four hours later your greeting came up over the mountain trail, a little piece of paper about as large as that, I knew that what I feared was not true; and when I came here and looked one brother after another in the eye, and shook each by the hand, my heart thrilled with gladness, because I realized, more forcibly than ever, that the thing which I feared last summer might happen, had not happened, and never could happen. [Applause.]

I am going to tell you frankly and honestly that in the early part of last summer, I was face to face with a situation which kept me awake many a night, with a question that had to be decided, a question which I was more than anxious to decide rightly, and that was what was the proper thing for me to do; and I come to you today — although there may be some difference of opinion — I come to you today with the belief that after all the event has proved that the right thing was done in connection with the Sons of Veterans and the Spanish-American War. Because, however much we might have wished to raise a regiment, or a company, or a brigade, or an army corps, out of our membership, I believe it could not have been done, at least under the Commander-in-Chief whom you had elected. Possibly had you had some one else at the head of the Order, some one with more ability as an organizer, he might have rushed in and taken this Order in, as was done, you will remember, in the case of one particular organization with a man at its head who occupied at that time a high official and public position, and who was able to push that volunteer organization straight to the front, side by side with the regulars in Cuba. It might have been done, but I frankly admit that I could not do it, and in the orders which I gave out, you will remember, I turned the membership of this Order loose, so to speak, to rush in, to join such organizations as they saw fit. I believe that was the proper thing to do, although I know there are some here who may disagree with me.

Now, I have talked longer than I intended. I am glad I came out here. I assure you that my service at the front, such as it may have been, has only increased my love for this Order and for the Grand Army of the Republic, from the members of which we derive our rights and principles. I believe that we have a splendid Encampment here; that the Order is going forward and in the future it will be found, as it has been in the past, one of the grandest, one of the best, and one of the noblest institutions which make for patriotism in this country. [Applause.]

The Adjutant-General: I now renew my motion that the Commandery-in-Chief take recess until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The motion was agreed to and the Commandery-in-Chief took recess until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY — MORNING SESSION.

SATURDAY, Sept. 9, 1899. 9 o'clock A.M.

The Commandery-in-Chief met pursuant to adjournment.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Commandery-in-Chief will come to order.

The Inspector-General reported all present entitled to remain.

The Commander-in-Chief: I will appoint Reverend Brother Macurdy to act as Chaplain-in-Chief, *pro tem.* The Adjutant-General will proceed with the call of the roll of this Encampment.

C. J. Deckman of Ohio: Commander, I move that the calling of the roll be dispensed with this morning.

Isaac Cutter of Ohio: Commander, I second the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS.

Commander-in-Chief: The Adjutant-General has several communications upon his desk which I will ask him to read at this time.

The Adjutant-General read the following communications:

COLORADO SPRINGS, COL., Sept. 8, 1899.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Detroit, Mich.

Colorado Division sends greetings to the National Encampment

G. S. MILONE, *Commander.*

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Sept. 8, 1899.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Detroit, Mich.

Greetings duly extended to G.A.R. and W.R.C

T. A. BARTON, *for Committee.*

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., Sept. 7, 1899.

GEN. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans,
Detroit, Mich.

California sends greeting, and pledges increase of membership.

HARRY T. MOORE, *Division Commander.*

S. OF V. AND G.A.R.

The Commander-in-Chief: While we are waiting for reports from the regular committees I will call upon Major Reed to report upon the work done by the Sons of Veterans for the Grand Army of the Republic.

MAJOR REED'S ADDRESS.

Major Reed of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, I am glad of the opportunity to place on record what was done by the Sons of Veterans at the Thirty-third Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

When we first learned that the Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic was to be held in our city, we determined to do what was possible to make their sojourn pleasant, and at the same time advertise the Order of Sons of Veterans. Several of the brothers, myself included, were appointed on the general committee of the G.A.R. At one of the early meetings of the committee, we made an application for a place in the line of parade. This proposition met with a very unexpected objection from some of the G.A.R. comrades, some saying: "This is a parade of the G.A.R. men, no boys are wanted." But by judicious management and persistent efforts on the part of some of the brothers, notably Brothers McNulty, Orr, Hughes, Tawney, Wagner, Curry and others, assisted by the kindly interest of General Wagner, General Beath and others, we finally secured an invitation for the First Regiment, Sons of Veterans Reserve, to escort the Department of Pennsylvania, provided the regiment would go into camp at Camp Sexton in Fairmount Park and guard the Camp during the time the G.A.R. were there. The invitation was accepted and the officers and men of the First Regiment, S.V.R., went to work with a will to make the necessary arrangements. The regiment is equipped according to the latest U.S. Army regulations, everything having been bought and paid for by the members. We paraded a strength of seven hundred and sixty-five men; the conduct, drill and appearance of the regiment was first class, as the handsome and deserved compliments of the President of the United States, officers of the regular army, G.A.R., committee and citizens, amply testify. We have had regular troops, national guards and other military organizations, encamped in the Park; and the citizens living in that vicinity and the thousands visiting the Camps during that time, testify that the First Regiment, Sons of Veterans Reserve, is the only organization of which no complaint was made. Never a woman was insulted, no private property destroyed, and no rude conduct to point the way to the "Guard House." [Applause.] Though the men composing the regiment were the most intimate friends, one being a private in the ranks, the other wearing the shoulder strap, no greater display of military discipline was ever shown. Past Commander-in-Chief Darling witnessed the parade: and I am sure he will agree with me, when I say, our regiment, on that September morning, on Broad St., received a more than flattering reception from the assembled thousands. We reeeived congratulations on every hand, and men competent to judge of military merit, tell us that no better looking, more soldierly soldiers ever paraded in the honored uniform of the army. President McKinley told General Wagner that "they were a credit to their fathers and to the nation." I am glad of the opportunity to place on record these facts, facts that stand out as living testimonials to the worth and patriotic pride of the Sons of Veterans; facts that prove that we are no longer "boys," but men, men who understand and appreciate that glorious record of those men who by the greatest heroism and sacrifice, hallowed the close of the nation's century, as the fathers of the Revolution sanctified its dawn.

At the breaking out of the Spanish-American War, this regiment was the very first to offer its services to the President. [Applause.]

Governor Hastings ordered the regiment out for inspection by the Inspector-General: and twenty-four hours from the reception of said order, we paraded a full strength of 1,385 armed and equipped men ready for active service in the field. [Applause.] The war was too soon over, the National Guard more than filling the quota required from our State; we were therefore unable to see active service, but they stand as an example of what may be expected of this Order of Sons of Veterans, and should the time ever come that they be called upon to preserve the liberty which was preserved by our fathers' valor, they will answer, every man, "Here." [Applause.]

The Commander-in-Chief: On behalf of the Encampment I desire to say that we are very much obliged to Major Reed for his report.

Is the Chairman of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations present? Apparently not. Is the chairman of the Committee on Resolutions present?

W. Y. Morgan of Kansas: Yes, Commander.

The Commander-in-Chief: Has the committee any further report to make?

W. Y. Morgan of Kansas: Commander, we have a resolution which should properly go to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations. It does not belong with the Committee on Resolutions.

The Commander-in-Chief: It will be so referred. Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief Cox will assume command.

The Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief: Past Commander Church of Illinois has something to say to the Encampment.

PRESENTATION OF PORTRAIT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SHEPARD.

William T. Church of Illinois: Commander and Brothers of the Encampment: I suppose you have all learned by this time that we are liable to make mistakes, and in fact as sons of veterans we have to the fullest extent exercised that inalienable right of young America to make blunders as often as we choose; but I presume that we are also very well satisfied in our own minds that when we have made errors we are willing to acknowledge them and rectify them so far as lies in our power; and again there comes to us times when we realize that although we have, in exuberance, coasted the rainbow of youth and searched for the treasure that is supposed to lie hidden in its bright depths, still we have achieved results that have been highly gratifying to all of us; there have been times when fortune has enabled us to act with some wisdom, to direct our course with some knowledge of the requirements of the hour and the needs of the future, so that we can take to ourselves some satisfaction for some few actions in our career. It was the pleasure of the Illinois delegation at the Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief at Omaha to present for the highest office within the gift of this Order the name of one who had long been honored in our own Division, and at that time to make representations as to his character and qualifications which were known to most of you as well as to the members of that Division; and it is with great gratification today that we find, after the service of a year, a year which has been full of great

events both in this Order and in the affairs of the Government we love so well, a year that has added new glory to that flag which our fathers saved for a great united country, a year that has placed the American nation on record as the champion of the cause of humanity throughout the world, it is with great satisfaction I say, that we, the brothers of the Illinois Division, find today the brothers of this Encampment endorsing the sentiments which we expressed at that time in reference to the man whom we preferred for the office of Commander-in-Chief of this body.

There hang in the halls of memory many images and many objects, many portraits that are dear to us all. We are delighted at times to renew those incidents and places and scenes in which we have been active in the past, and in accordance with the custom, that opportunity may be given to those who shall serve this Order in the future to remember one who has served you long and faithfully, the Illinois Division at this time desires me to present to the Encampment the portrait of one whom it has delighted to honor, Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard [Applause]; and on behalf of my Division I tender you this portrait of our present Commander-in-Chief. [Applause.]

ACCEPTANCE BY PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF DARLING.

Charles K. Darling of Massachusetts: Commander-in-Chief, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief I will say that we accept the portrait of Commander-in-Chief Shepard with great pleasure, and it will hang with the other illustrious Past Commanders-in-Chief in the office of the Adjutant-General or Quartermaster-General. I am sure I speak the mind of every brother here when I say that no Commander-in-Chief has ever gone out of office with the united support and best wishes of every member of the Commandery-in-Chief more completely than the present incumbent of office. It is a great thing to be Commander-in-Chief of this Order of the Sons of Veterans. It is a great thing to be Commander-in-Chief of an Order which could turn out, as I have heard reference made to it this morning as I came into the hall, which could turn out such a regiment as the Sons of Veterans did to march up Broad Street in Philadelphia in the Grand Army parade. [Applause.] I heartily endorse all that was said by our brother from Pennsylvania regarding that regiment, and not only was it possible to have that regiment but it was possible, I believe, in this Order to have had ten, fifteen or twenty such regiments; and the man who stands at the head of an Order capable of putting into the field or into the service a body of men like that, occupies one of the grandest and highest positions in this land. But not only that. When we consider the other features of the Order, the possibilities of this Order, the grand things which it has done in the past and the still grander things which it will do in the future, I say the position of Commander-in-Chief of such an Order is one of the proudest which any man could hold in this country, and Frank L. Shepard during the past year has filled the bill. That is all I need to say. We all wish him in future years health, prosperity and happiness. [Applause.]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONS, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

James W. Noel, Chairman of the Committee on Constitutions, Rules and Regulations, submitted and read the following report: —

To the Officers and Members of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.: —

The Committee on C., R. and R. beg to submit the following report: —

We approve of the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief concerning the organization of State Camps having a membership coincident with the State or Division, and which will conserve the best interests of the Order, but we believe the law of the Order, without amendment, gives sufficient latitude for such organizations, so as to permit them to organize and govern themselves within the Constitutions, Rules and Regulations, and yet to take the rank of Camps in the organic body of our Order. While we agree with the Commander-in-Chief as to the results to be obtained, we do not believe that further legislation is necessary to bring about the result, but we do believe that such legislation might destroy the classification of the Order, and make too wide a departure from the original system.

We concur in the recommendation of the Adjutant-General, that if a Camp Captain permits his Camp to become suspended, and to remain suspended until the end of his term, he shall not be entitled to past rank, and we recommend that the C., R. and R. be amended, by the addition of a new section numbered Section 6 to Article IV., Chapter V., as follows: —

SECTION 6. If a Division Commander or a Camp Captain permits his Division or Camp to be suspended and remain suspended until the expiration of the term for which he is elected, he shall not be entitled to past rank.

We also approve the recommendation of the Adjutant-General that the expenditures of the Division in the payment of salaries and for clerical help of the Division should not exceed a certain per cent of the funds legitimately belonging to the Division, and we recommend that the Constitution, Rules and Regulations be amended by numbering the one section under Article VIII., of Chapter V., Section 1, and adding a new section, No. 2, as follows: —

SECTION 2. The expenses of a Division for salaries and clerical help shall not exceed fifty per cent of the total amount of *per capita* tax collected.

The petition from the Massachusetts Division that power be delegated to Division Commanders to proceed against a Camp and that the Commanders may transfer a brother to another Camp so that he may retain his standing and the incorrigibles of the Camp be suspended and go with the Camp itself, is concurred in, and the committee believe that the result can best be obtained by amending Section 4, Article IV., Chapter II., of the C., R. and R. by adding after the word "disbanded," in line one of that section, the words "or suspended," and by adding after the word "dissolution" in the third line, the words "or suspension."

The committee have received many applications for changes of the Constitution. They have examined these and considered them at much length, and with an eye single to the good of the Order, such recommendations have not been concurred in, and to conserve the time of this Encampment specific mention has not been made of them in this report. The action of the committee has in all of these cases been unanimous, and it has adhered to the belief that the organic law of the Order should receive only such amendment as great exigency may require.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) W. Scott Oberdorf,
Wm. T. Church,
James W. Noel,
Frederic E. Carpenter,
Henry G. Thomas,
Committee.

E. W. Estes of New York: Commander, I move the adoption of the report as a whole.

James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move that the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations be considered section by section.

George H. Bailey of New Jersey: Commander, I second the motion.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I move an amendment to the motion that in the discussion all remarks be limited to two minutes for each speaker.

Harry Rosenhaupt of Washington: Commander, I second the amendment.

James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania: I will, with the consent of my second, accept the amendment.

E. W. Estes of New York: Commander, I move as a substitute motion that the Commandery approve of the entire report of the committee with the exception of that part of it which pertains to Division expenses. I suppose we are united on the rest of the report.

The substitute motion was seconded.

The Chair put the question on the substitute motion and the substitute motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The chairman of the committee will now read the section in reference to Division expenses which was accepted in Brother Estes' substitute motion to adopt the report of the committee.

Chairman Noel read the section referred to as follows: —

"We also approve the recommendation of the Adjutant-General that the expenditures of the Division in the payment of salaries and for clerical help of the Division should not exceed a certain per cent of the funds legitimately belonging to the Division, and we recommend that the Constitution, Rules and Regulations be amended by numbering the one section under Article VIII, of Chapter V., Section 1, and adding a new Section No. 2, as follows: —

"Section 2. The expenses of a Division for salaries and clerical help shall not exceed fifty per cent of the total amount of *per capita* tax collected."

H. H. Hammer of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move that that section of the report of the committee be not concurred in.

The motion was seconded.

After discussion: —

F. C. Stilson of Michigan: Commander, I move the previous question.

J. E. Haycraft of Minnesota: Commander, I second the motion.

Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief: (In command): The previous question has been moved and seconded. The question is, Shall the main question be now put? Those in favor of the motion will say "Aye." Those opposed "No." The ayes have it and the previous question is ordered. The question now is on the motion that the recommendation contained in the report of the committee be not concurred in. Those in favor of the motion will so signify by saying "Aye." Those opposed "No." The ayes have it. [Cries of "Division," "Division."] In the opinion of the Chair the ayes have it. [Cries of "Division," "Division."] A division is called for. Those in favor of the motion will please rise and stand until counted. The Adjutant-General will count. Be seated. Those opposed please rise.

The Adjutant-General reported sixty-seven voting in the affirmative and thirty-three in the negative.

The Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief: Sixty-seven members voting aye and thirty-three voting no. It is the opinion of the Chair that the ayes have it. The ayes have it and the recommendation of the committee is not concurred in.

CONCERNING BOND OF DIVISION COMMANDERS.

Edgar Allan Jr. of Maryland: Commander, the Division of Maryland had a resolution before the committee which I understand is not reported by the committee. The resolution from our Division is in the line along which this Encampment has been moving, and I understand it has been overruled by the committee. I would like to bring it before the Encampment and have the Encampment take some action upon it. It is a resolution making the bond of Division Commanders not less than five hundred dollars nor more than two thousand dollars, and giving the Division Council the right to fix it.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, as I understand it, Brother Allan offers this as an amendment to the report of the committee.

Edgar Allan of Maryland: Commander, we offer it that way, as an amendment to the report of the committee. I will read it. The resolution is as follows: —

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND SECTION 7, ARTICLE VII., CHAPTER V., C., R. AND R.

That the Commander of each Division shall within thirty days from the date of his installation give bond in the sum of two thousand dollars ($2,000) unless a greater sum," etc., Inasmuch as the Maryland Division shows this amount to be excessive, when taking into consideration the value of the properties and moneys in its possession; and

WHEREAS, The Division Quartermaster is by Section 3 of the same article, required to give bond to the Division Commander in the sum of one thousand

dollars ($1,000) which bond is full and sufficient surety for the property belonging to and handled by the Maryland Division; be it therefore

Resolved, That the words "or lesser" be inserted after the word "greater" in the 4th line of Section 7, Article VII., Chapter V. Also after the word "bond" first used on the 8th line of said section, to insert the words "but in no case shall the said bond be less than the sum of five hundred dollars."

I move the adoption of that resolution, Commander, as an amendment to the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

The motion was seconded.

The Chair put the question on the amendment to the report of the committee moved by Brother Allan of Maryland and the amendment was rejected.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is now on the adoption of the report of the committee as a whole with the exception of the clause rejected, in other words, as amended.

The Chair put the question on the adoption of the report of the committee as amended and the motion was agreed to and the report of the committee as amended adopted.

James W. Noel of Indiana: I move that the committee be discharged.

The Commander-in-Chief: With the thanks of the Commandery.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to and the committee discharged with the thanks of the Commandery.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I move the reconsideration of the vote by which the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations as amended was adopted.

E. B. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I second the motion.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, I move to lay that motion on the table.

J. D. Rowen of Iowa: Commander, I second that motion.

The Chair put the question on the motion to lay on the table and the motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Adjutant-General desires to speak of a matter of some interest to this Encampment.

The Adjutant-General: Commander, it is a matter that possibly should have been referred to in my report but I did not know just how to handle it and for that reason I did not put it in. Some time ago, you will remember, we were appealed to by a monument committee, a committee for the erection of a national monument, or something of that kind, in New York City; we were applied to for donations, and it was provided that the societies donating, or a list of the donors and the emblems of the society donating, should be placed in a conspicuous position on the monument. This movement was for the purpose of erecting a monument to the memory of the soldiers who died in the Spanish-American War, and as the Order of the Sons of Veterans lost some forty brothers in that war, the Commander-in-Chief applied to the Order, as you will recollect, and papers were sent out. For some reason or other there was very little response. In fact but two Camps, the

Camp at Manistique, in the Division of Michigan and Logan Camp of Colorado Springs, of Colorado. The Camp at Manistique contributed forty odd dollars and the other Camp I referred to contributed ten dollars, and the ten dollars in the form of a draft is in the strong box of the Adjutant-General in Chicago subject to the will of this Encampment. The forty-two dollars is left in the hands of the Commander of the Michigan Division, where it still remains. We have not determined whether we would call for it or not. The response was so small that it was a question whether we should take any action in regard to the matter. It is now presented to this Encampment for them to make some recommendation as to what disposition should be made of this money.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I move that the donations be returned to the donors, with the thanks of the Commandery-in-Chief.

C. T. Orner of Illinois: Commander, I second the motion.

The Chair put the question on the motion, and the motion was agreed to.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair is informed that the Committee on Resolutions has a supplementary report to make on a resolution submitted by the Division of Maine.

Chairman Morgan of the Committee on Resolutions submitted the following supplementary report: —

CONCERNING FRANK P. MERRILL OF MAINE.

To the Eighteenth Annual Encampment Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.:

Your Committee on Resolutions begs to report recommending the adoption of the following resolution submitted by the Maine Division.

Resolved, That faithful and honorable service in the interests of our Order is worthy of the highest recognition. We therefore urge on the Commandery-in-Chief our desire to accord to a brother of the Maine Division, Past Commander-in-Chief Frank P. Merrill, the honors of Past Division Commander, as he relinquished the position to accept the higher and more responsible duties of Commander-in-Chief in the early days of our Order.

The committee concurs in the resolution, and moves its adoption.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to and the rank of Past Division Commander was accorded to Past Commander-in-Chief Frank P. Merrill of Maine.

W. Y. Morgan of Kansas: Now, Commander, I move that the Committee on Resolutions be discharged.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

CONSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS ELECTED.

William T. Church of Illinois: Commander, I desire to move that the Commandery-in-Chief suspend Section 5, Article II, page 36 of the

Constitution, Rules and Regulations; and that Isaac Cutter of Camp 4 of the Division of Illinois be elected a constitutional life member of this body.

William G. Dustin of Illinois: Commander, I second the motion.

Leonard C. Couch of Massachusetts: Commander, I desire to make the point of order that we cannot constitutionally elect a constitutional life member in this manner.

The Commander-in-Chief: (Having resumed command) The Chair holds the point of order to be not well taken, the motion being to suspend the constitutional provision on the subject.

Isaac Cutter of Illinois, E. C. Parkinson of New York, Columbus Borin of Kansas and Harold C. Megrew of Indiana were nominated for constitutional life members of the Commandery-in-Chief. In each case the motion was made to suspend the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and after much discussion they were severally elected, the constitution being suspended and the members elected by the required majorities of members of the Commandery-in-Chief accredited as present and entitled to vote.

RANK OF PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF CONFERRED UPON R. M. J. REED OF PENNSYLVANIA.

H. H. Hammar of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief, I desire to move that the rules be suspended and that the rank of Past Commander-in-Chief be conferred upon Maj. R. M. J. Reed of Philadelphia, Pa.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, I second that motion.

James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, it is not my intention to detain the Encampment more than a moment, but on behalf of the Pennsylvania Division and Brother Reed, I want to say just a word or two.

It has been generally stated and understood that our late brother Maj. A. P. Davis was the father of this Order. While Brother Davis was alive it was not necessary to correct that statement and that understanding, and now it is not desired to take one bit of credit from Major Davis in connection with his labors for this Order, but the truth of history is important, and it is now time that an error of history that has long been permitted to stand should be corrected, for Major Reed was active in the work of the Order at a time when no less than sixteen Camps existed in a regular way under the authority of a *bona fide* Division organization, all antedating the formation of Major Davis' Camp by various periods up to fourteen months.

I have in custody the records of the Adjutant and the Quartermaster of the Pennsylvania Division that conclusively prove this. There were sixteen Camps in the eastern Division of Pennsylvania doing business at regular stands, thoroughly equipped, and probably outnumbering in every respect any other Camps in existence. With Generals William E. W. Ross of Baltimore, Rodrigo Bangs and others, at the time consolidation was attempted he labored hard and earnestly to break the bone of contention. It is admitted by those who are familiar with the early history of this organization that the eastern Division of

Pennsylvania, to which I refer, was then in better condition in every respect than any one of the opposing forces. Major Reed sacrificed a position that was worth a great deal to him; he spent money and labored day and night to effect the agreement. I happen to be a living witness to the fact that through him, and through him alone, was the junction effected from which this organization sprung. We do not come here asking you to put an additional vote to the credit of the Pennsylvania Division. We do not come here asking you to do more than you did when you granted to Maj. A. P. Davis the same honors. Major Reed today is accredited upon the roll of this Encampment with a voice and a vote. We simply desire in the correction of history that justice may be done to Major Reed. For one, I am utterly opposed to permitting this action to serve as a precedent, for any other man who is alive today who might ask a similar favor. The only man who is alive today who might ask such a favor is General Ross, who is in an unfortunate position and physically unable to accept it; and if he were here he would say as much as I would for Major Reed. [Applause.]

The Chair put the question on Brother Hammer's motion, and the motion was agreed to.

SELECTION OF PLACE FOR HOLDING NEXT ENCAMPMENT.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I now move that we proceed to the selection of a place for holding our next Encampment.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

Adjutant-General Abbott: Commander, I move that nomination speeches be limited to two minutes.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Adjutant-General will call the roll of the Divisions for the purpose of nominating cities from which the place of holding our next annual Encampment will be chosen.

The Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions.

When the Division of Connecticut was called:

Edson S. Bishop of Connecticut: Commander, Connecticut yields her place to New York.

J. Frank Durston of New York: Commander, it is a well known fact so that it is probably unnecessary to state it again that the delegates from the eastern part of this country have been traveling westward for the past ten or twelve years. The brothers from the western Divisions have made the claim that they needed the Encampment, that they needed the encouragement and the stimulus that the National Encampment gave, and that the brothers of the eastern Divisions were much better able to pay their expenses going west than the brothers of the western Divisions were to pay theirs going east. This was conceded very cheerfully and we have put up time and money coming west. Now, the time has arrived when we ask you to come east. The Division of New York, after having passed, as I say, through many trials, is now in the position to offer you an ideal city in which to hold your Encampment, the city of Syracuse. The population is just

about right, 140,000. It is a city you will not be lost in and it occupies the exact geographical centre of the State. We had during the past year over forty conventions and they were all well taken care of and we have between forty and fifty booked for next year. We have New York City so close that the delegates from the West can take in that great metropolis. We have two Camps with an active membership of seventy-five each. We entertained the New York Division in 1890 and in 1894, and we had three or four times the number present that the Commandery-in-Chief represents, and there never was a convention better handled or delegates better satisfied. We have the two Relief Corps and a very nice Ladies' Aid Society. We have twelve fine hotels there, just as good as those here, and a hundred smaller ones. We have three thousand members of the New York Division that will rally to the convention in a way that will surprise you. I have a number of letters here extending a most cordial invitation, a telegram from the Chamber of Commerce, from Wood Post, from the Camps and from the Ladies' Aid Society. You all know that Syracuse wants the next Encampment, and we present Syracuse entirely on its merits. [Applause.]

Brother Durston here read invitations from Lilly Post No. 66, and Root Post No. 151 G.A.R. of Syracuse, from the Secretary of the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, from James K. McGuire, Mayor of Syracuse, Lilly Post W.R.C., No. 172, L.A.S., No. 16, Merriam Camp No. 52, and Sniper Camp No. 166, Sons of Veterans, and Root Post W.R.C., No. 200.

The Adjutant-General continued the calling of the roll.

When the Division of Illinois was reached:

Will C. Schneider of Illinois: Commander, Illinois desires to give way to Wisconsin.

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: Commander, I am privileged to bear the invitation of Milwaukee to this Encampment. I will not detain you in describing the beauties of our city, you all know it, or know something of it; our miles of well-lighted, well-paved streets, the beautiful parks surrounding it on three sides with the lake on the east of us, affording unequalled facilities for boating and pleasure riding. I might say that just nineteen miles west of us is that beautiful watering place Waukesha. I think if you will come next year, after attending the Encampment you will require a water cure. Come to Milwaukee and go out to the water cure at Waukesha at the close of the Encampment.

I have letters in my hand from T. J. Sullivan, secretary of the Business Men's League; also from David S. Rose, Mayor of the city of Milwaukee, most earnestly inviting your presence. I cannot say the many things I would like to say, descriptive of Milwaukee. It is in the centre of the country, convenient to Chicago; you can come around by the Lakes from Buffalo and cross Lake Michigan; you can come around the south end of Lake Michigan to Chicago from the south and from the west. You know that the lines of communication are all that you desire. One point I desire to emphasize is this: that next year the Grand Army of the Republic will meet in Chicago. Chicago is but two

hours distant from Milwaukee. Members can attend the Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Chicago and then come down to Milwaukee and transact the business of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans. We get a one-cent rate next year from all over the country. There will be no trouble about rates, and the question of rates is a very important one to all of us. Those who attended the Knoxville Encampment remember that the attendance upon our Encampment touched high-water mark that year; that we had governors, and ex-governors and lieutenant-governors galore, and generals and lieutenant-generals and everything we wanted. Every train brought in some visiting governors, or generals, from all over the country. We elbowed with those great men until we thought we were great ourselves, and we will have the same chance at Milwaukee next year. Come to Milwaukee, brothers. [Applause.]

The Adjutant-General continued the calling of the roll. When the Division of Ohio was called:

A. E. B. Stephens of Ohio: Commander, speaking for the representatives of the Division of Ohio I desire to second the nomination of Syracuse, New York.

The Adjutant continued the calling of the roll. When the Division of Washington was reached:

Harry Rosenhaupt of Washington: Commander, I desire to present the name of Spokane, Washington.

The Adjutant-General continued the calling of the roll. When the Division of Wisconsin was called:

E. T. Fairchild of Wisconsin: Commander, representing the Mayor of Milwaukee, I urge our claim for your next Encampment. We have never had it, you know. We want a chance to show you what Milwaukee hospitality is. There will be no police in the city during the convention. [Laughter.]

The Commander-in-Chief: The Adjutant will call the roll of Divisions and Division Commanders will announce the vote of their Division on place of holding our next meeting.

The Adjutant-General called the roll and announced the result, for Syracuse seventy-five; for Milwaukee forty-five, the vote by Divisions being as follows:—

	Syracuse.	Milwaukee.
Connecticut	4	
Illinois	8	4
Indiana		8
Iowa	1	1
Kansas	1	3
Maine	2	
Maryland	4	
Massachusetts	11	
Michigan		9
Minnesota		2
Missouri		2
Nebraska	1	1
New Jersey	1	1
New York	15	
Ohio	9	4
Pennsylvania	15	

	Syracuse.	Milwaukee.
Rhode Island	1	
South Dakota		2
Washington	1	
Wisconsin		8
Vermont	1	
	75	45

SYRACUSE CHOSEN.

A. G. Braband of Wisconsin: Commander, I move that the Adjutant-General cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for Syracuse for the place of holding the National Encampment next year.

C. J. Post of Michigan: Commander, I second the motion.

The Chair put the question on the motion, and the motion was agreed to.

The Adjutant-General: In accordance with the action just taken by the Commandery I hereby cast one hundred and twenty votes for Syracuse, New York, as the place for holding the next annual Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief: One hundred and twenty votes having been cast for Syracuse, the Chair declares Syracuse, New York, duly selected as the place for holding the next annual Encampment.

W. S. Oberdorf of New York: Commander, in behalf of the Division of New York I desire to thank the Commandery-in-Chief for its kindness. Syracuse is known in the Empire State as the City of Salt, and I am sure that you will go away from that beautiful place with the idea that not only is it a city of salt, but that the hospitality of the Sons of Veterans there is the salt of the earth. [Applause.]

REPORT OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF CONCURRED IN.

The Chair is informed that the report of the Council-in-Chief read yesterday was not passed upon. A motion to adopt the report of the Council-in-Chief would be in order.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, I move that the report of the Council-in-Chief as read yesterday be adopted, and that the recommendations contained therein be concurred in.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: Commander, I move that we proceed to the nomination and election of officers.

F. C. Stillson of Michigan: Commander, I second the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

George E. Cogshall of Michigan: Commander, I move you that nominating speeches be limited to two minutes.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Adjutant-General will call the roll of Divisions for nominations for Commander-in-Chief.

The Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll.

When the Division of Illinois was reached:

Will C. Schneider of Illinois: Commander, Illinois gives way to Ohio.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander-in-Chief, on behalf of the Division of Ohio, as endorsed by the Encampment at Columbus, unanimously, I present for your consideration one who needs no encomium at my hand, one who is known throughout the Order as well as in the State where he lives outside of this organization for his ability, his strength of character, his honesty of purpose and for his fidelity to any duty that may be imposed upon him. It is scarcely necessary to mention his name; you all recognize him. I nominate Past Commander Asa W. Jones of Ohio for Commander-in-Chief. [Applause.]

ASA W. JONES OF OHIO ELECTED COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

James W. Noel of Indiana: Commander, I desire to move that the further call of the roll be dispensed with, the rules suspended and the Adjutant-General instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of this Encampment for Asa W. Jones of Ohio, for Commander-in-Chief.

S. S. Horn of Pennsylvania: Commander, the Pennsylvania Division wants to go on record as seconding that motion.

The Chair put the question on the motion, and it was agreed to, unanimously.

The Adjutant-General: In accordance with the action of the Encampment just taken I cast the one hundred and twenty-five votes of the Encampment for Asa W. Jones for Commander-in-Chief for the present year. [Cries of "Jones," "Jones."]

The Commander-in-Chief: Past Division Commander Asa W. Jones having received the unanimous vote of this Encampment for the office of Commander-in-Chief, is hereby declared to be duly elected to that office for the ensuing year. I take pleasure in requesting Past Commander-in-Chief Bundy and Past Commander-in-Chief Darling to escort the newly elected Commander-in-Chief to the platform.

The Commander-in-Chief elect was escorted to the platform by the committee appointed for that purpose.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brothers, it is my supreme pleasure to present to you our newly elected Commander-in-Chief, Asa W. Jones of the Division of Ohio.

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ELECT JONES.

Commander-in-Chief elect Jones: Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, for this distinguished mark of your favor I thank you from the bottom of my heart. It is an honor that I appreciate and shall remember to my dying day; that here up in this beautiful city of Detroit, surrounded by my brothers, I have been unanimously elected to the highest office in your gift.

For a great many years I have been connected with associations of different kinds. I have belonged to other societies, my membership in which I prize highly. I belong to them because I believe that if there is anything good in this world we find it when we get together. I think that the great trouble with us Americans often when we get upon the rostrum and denounce somebody, is that we do not know that

somebody. Now, I am connected with the grand Masonic organization of this country and of the world, and I have found pleasant associations in that organization. I have enjoyed my connection with it, but I enjoy it as a social organization. As such I love it. But when I get among my brothers of the Sons of Veterans, I find all that is there is here too, and I find another thing. I find that I am with an organization that loves that old flag [Applause] and I find that I am with an organization that says they will stand as our fathers stood and defend that flag from foes without and foes within. I believe, I know, and I am glad to know, that I am with an organization that is perfectly willing that other nations shall understand, that when the map of the world is to be changed or affected, the United States is to be consulted upon the subject. [Applause.] I believe, too, that I am with an organization that says that where that old flag has been planted in its glory, by the might and power of the army and navy of the United States, it shall stand until the end of time. [Applause.]

My brothers, I will not stop to talk long upon these subjects. They are the ABC of this Order. Patriotism is written upon every page and on every breast and upon every heart in this Order, and we are standing for patriotism. [Applause.] I do not mean now to say an unkind word of those who met our fathers in battle array. I have in the past upon the rostrum spoken of them in terms that I never again shall repeat; never again shall those words escape my lips; and I shall cease to speak of them in that way because I find those grand old patriotic men of the Grand Army of the Republic, and their sons in the Sons of Veterans have said to me, "We have taken them back, and they are our brothers in this grand confederacy, and they are standing shoulder to shoulder with us." [Applause.]

I think the grandest thing that I have seen in a long time was when we said in the power, might and grandeur of this nation that the yoke of oppression should come off from the neck of Cuba. We raised up as one man and said "that shall be done." Ohio alone didn't say that. Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana alone didn't say that, nor were they clutching at the throat of Pennsylvania, and New York, and Illinois, and Ohio, and the other grand States of this Union. But every State stood shoulder to shoulder; man to man they stood up and said that old banner is our banner; it is our country and we will go with you as the Grand Army of the Republic. [Applause.]

Lee and Wheeler commanded Sons of Veterans, and Miles and Dewey and those other grand men commanded Sons of the Confederacy. Ah, they stood together as one man. [Applause.]

But the grandest thing that I have seen in all this time came to me from a Grand Army man I know down in the city of Pittsburg, in that grand old State of Pennsylvania — pardon me if I repeat this incident because I believe it contains it all. A few days ago, or rather a few months ago at the annual banquet of the American Republican Club in the city of Pittsburg, I had the honor as a member to be present. On that day our guests of honor were neither of them Republicans. They were Admiral Schley and Major-General Wheeler, formerly of the Confederate service. I take it that at that banquet Republicanism was

not the theme. It was patriotism. In the afternoon at the club room there was a reception not to hundreds, not to thousands, it was to tens of thousands. In the line of that reception was Admiral Schley first, General Wheeler next, and by good fortune, or rather the good fortune of some of my friends, I was permitted to stand in that line and receive those thousands that came up to do honor to those grand men, and as I saw that line being formed away back, I saw an old decrepit man, and upon his left breast was the honored emblem of the Grand Army of the Republic. He tottered as he came along down the line until he got hold of the hand of Admiral Schley and shook it with a warmth that said "I love you, my dear friend." He next grasped General Wheeler by the hand and shook it until you would have been willing to say General Wheeler was the best friend he had on earth; and then he came to me and grasping my hand, he said, "Jones, thirty-five years ago I tried to shoot that man," and the tears trickled down his face and he said, "I am glad I didn't shoot him, I am glad I didn't get the opportunity; I think he is a grand man; he loves the old flag now as you and I loved it then, and I love him for that love." That tells the whole story. It was the heart of the old soldier, the Grand Army man, that said, "We take you back into our communion, General Wheeler," and that great city of Pittsburg stood up to do honor to the man whose life twenty-five years ago would not have been safe upon the streets of Pittsburg. We are a united country, a grand country, the grandest in the world, and we stand today where we dare say to all nations "When you propose to change the map of the world, ask the United States."

Again, brothers and Commander-in-Chief, I thank you for the distinguished honor that you have conferred upon me, and while I cannot promise to discharge my duty as faithfully, as efficiently as has been done in the past, I will simply say, my brothers, that I will do my best. [Applause.]

E. C. Parkinson of New York: Commander, I move we give three cheers for our Commander-in-Chief elect, Asa W. Jones.

The Commander-in-Chief: It is not necessary to put that motion. [Cheers.]

J. D. Rowen of Iowa: Commander, I move that the Encampment do now take recess for an hour and thirty minutes.

The motion was not seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Adjutant-General will now call the roll of Divisions for nominations for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll.

When the Division of Illinois was called:

Will C. Schneider of Illinois: Commander, Illinois desires to give way to Pennsylvania.

James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania: Commander, Pennsylvania will not detain you but half a minute to say that all any one need do to be impressed with the merits of the brother whom we shall present to occupy the second place in this Commandery-in-Chief during the ensuing year is to scan the pages of the proceedings of the various Encampments of this Commandery-in-Chief; there will be found the

recommendation of the brother whom we shall nominate; he is by no means a stranger to you, but one who has impressed himself upon those who have attended the various Encampments of the Commandery-in-Chief by his earnestness and fidelity, and one who is entitled to our respect and esteem; Pennsylvania desires to place in nomination for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, the name of Brother A. L. Sortor of Iowa. [Applause.]

A. L. Sortor of Iowa: Commander, with all due regard for the splendid honor and with gratitude to my Past Commander-in-Chief, I desire at this time, for the best interests of the Order, to have my name withdrawn as a candidate for this high and exalted position. As I understand it, next year is to be a year of work. I understand that I am to be detailed to assist in bringing to a climax a most important proposition that is now being considered by this Order. It is argued by my friends who have proposed my name for this position that it is not a working position, but I contend that it should be a working position, and I would not accept it and be a fifth wheel in this great machine. I ask the brother from Pennsylvania to withdraw my name as a candidate for this position, and allow me to exert my best efforts along the line which I have suggested, and that he present the name of someone who is not only more worthy, but who has more time to devote to this work.

A. L. SORTOR OF IOWA ELECTED SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, I move that a further call of the roll be dispensed with, the rules suspended and that the Adjutant-General of this Encampment instructed to cast the vote of the Encampment for A. L. Sortor of Iowa for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

The Adjutant-General: Commander, in accordance with the action of the Commandery-in-Chief just taken I cast the one hundred and twenty-five ballots of the Encampment for A. L. Sortor of Iowa, for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Sortor having received the unanimous vote of the Encampment, I declare him duly elected Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief of our Order for the ensuing year.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE ON MILITARY COLLEGE.

Allow me at this time to make the announcement of the committee which by direction of this Encampment I was to announce some time ago. The Committee on Military College was today appointed, or rather, continued, and the personnel is to be made up by the Commander-in-Chief. I reappoint Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief elect A. L. Sortor as chairman of the committee, to be assisted by the following members: H. E. Cowdin of Michigan, George E. Cox of Connecticut, William T. Church of Illinois, W. A. Morris of South Dakota. The Adjutant-General will call the roll of Divisions for nominations for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions.

When the Division of Connecticut was called:

Edson S. Bishop of Connecticut: Commander, Connecticut desires to give way to the Division of Michigan.

F. C. Stillson of Michigan: Commander, the pleasant duty devolves upon me of placing in nomination a brother of this Division for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief. While the brother I shall name has not established a national reputation, yet the reputation he has gained in the Division of Michigan is a credit to himself and a credit to the Order. On behalf of the Michigan delegation I nominate Walter L. Raynes as a candidate for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

WALTER L. RAYNES ELECTED JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

W. Y. Morgan of Kansas: Commander, I move that a further call of the roll of Divisions be dispensed with, that the rules be suspended and the Adjutant-General be instructed to cast the ballot of this Encampment for Walter L. Raynes of Michigan for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to, unanimously.

The Adjutant-General: Commander, in obedience to the vote just taken I hereby cast one hundred and twenty-five votes of this Commandery-in-Chief for Walter L. Raynes of Michigan, for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: Walter L. Raynes having received the unanimous vote of the Encampment I hereby declare him duly elected Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

The next order of business is the election of Council-in-Chief.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

H. V. Speelman of Ohio: Commander, it affords me great pleasure at this time to present the name of a man who is well known to us all. On behalf of the Division of Ohio, I present the name of Past Chaplain-in-Chief, W. J. Patton of Wisconsin, for election as a member of the Council-in-Chief.

The nomination was seconded.

Newton J McGuire of Indiana: Commander, Indiana desires to place in nomination the name of James W. Noel of Indiana.

The nomination was seconded.

E. W. Estes of New York: Commander, I desire to place in nomination the name of George H. Bailey of New Jersey.

The nomination was seconded.

A. L. Sortor of Iowa: Commander, I desire to present the name of Gen. George B. Abbott.

The nomination was seconded.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL ABBOTT ELECTED A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, in accordance with precedent and realizing the necessity of having upon the Council-in-Chief one of experience and one who is familiar with the affairs of the Order,

I move that the rules be suspended and that the Quartermaster-General be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for Gen. George B. Abbott as a member of the Council-in-Chief. [Applause.]

F. C. Stillson of Michigan: Commander, I second that motion.

The motion was agreed to, unanimously.

The Quartermaster-General: Brothers, by your direction the Quartermaster-General casts the one hundred and twenty-five votes of this Encampment for the election of Past Commander-in-Chief and present Adjutant-General George B. Abbott as a member of the Council-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: Adjutant-General George B. Abbott having received the unanimous vote of the Encampment, I declare him duly elected a member of the Council-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

J. D. Swain of New York: Commander, I desire to place in nomination George B. Addington of New York.

The nomination was seconded.

W. Y. Morgan of Kansas: Commander, I desire to place in nomination the name of Brother A. H. Rawitzer of Nebraska.

The nomination was seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: If there are no further nominations the Chair will declare nominations for Council-in-Chief closed. The Adjutant-General will proceed with the calling of the roll, and the Divisions will vote for two members of the Council-in-Chief.

The Adjutant-General called the roll of Divisions and the result was as follows: —

	Patton	Noel	Bailey	Addington	Rawitzer
Connecticut	4			4	
Illinois	12			12	
Indiana	2	8	2	2	2
Iowa	2				2
Kansas	3	2			3
Maine	2			2	
Maryland	4			4	
Massachusetts	11			11	
Michigan	9			9	
Minnesota	2			2	
Missouri	2	2			
Nebraska			2		2
New Jersey		1	1		2
New York	4	2	8	9	5
Ohio	12	1		13	
Pennsylvania	17	2		15	
Rhode Island		2		2	
South Dakota	2			2	
Vermont	1			1	
Washington	1				
Wisconsin	6	5		3	
Totals	96	25	13	91	16

The Commander-in-Chief: The vote stands, George H. Bailey of New Jersey, thirteen; A. H. Rawitzer of Nebraska, sixteen; James W. Noel of Indiana, twenty-five; George Addington of New York, ninety-one; W. J. Patton of Wisconsin, ninety-six. Brothers W. J. Patton and George Addington having received a majority of all the votes cast, are declared duly elected to serve as members of the Council-in-Chief for the ensuing year. That concludes the election of officers.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I move that the Commandery-in-Chief do now take recess until four o'clock P.M. to convene at that time for the installation of officers.

The motion was seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: With the permission of the Encampment, as well as of the mover and seconder of that motion, before putting it I will call upon Brother McGuire, who has something to say to the Encampment.

PRESENTATION OF GAVEL.

Newton J. McGuire of Indiana: Commander, I want to present to the Commandery-in-Chief publicly what I have already presented to the Commander-in-Chief privately at the beginning of this Encampment. A few months ago, a very near friend and close neighbor of mine was honored with the position of Quartermaster of the depot at Santiago de Cuba. He was there at the time that the war vessel *Reina Mercedes* was sunk in the harbor. That is the only steamer, you know, that was saved out of the Spanish fleet that was sunk in Santiago harbor. This vessel was raised and sent to Newport News, and my very near friend, Harry B. Snyder of Indianapolis, was kind and thoughtful enough to get a piece of wood from that vessel for a souvenir. He had a couple of gavels made out of it and one of them he sent to the Department of Indiana of the Grand Army of the Republic, and one of them he presented to me because he knew I was identified with the Sons of Veterans. That gavel I presented to the Commander-in-Chief on the first day of our Encampment; but I want now to publicly acknowledge the gift and present it to the Encampment as evidencing the kindness and thoughtfulness of an old soldier, the hero of two wars, who has in his heart and soul the best interests of the Sons of Veterans; and who was kind enough to remember them when he was down in the Christo mountains and Santiago trying to escape the yellow fever. [Applause.]

The Commander-in-Chief: Past Commander McGuire, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief I thank you for this gavel. The Order will appreciate it because of the interest that centres in it, and I beg you to express the thanks of the Commandery-in-Chief to the donor of the same.

General Abbott, I believe, has a statement to make.

PHILIPPINE BANNER AND SPANISH BOAT FLAG.

Adjutant-General Abbott; Commander, the Captain of McKinley Camp of the Division of California, located in the Philippine Islands,

has sent to the Commander of the Division of California, Col. Harry T. Moore, a Philippine banner and a Spanish boat flag. The boat flag had been captured by the Philippinos, and the banner, together with the flag captured by them, was captured by our brothers in the United States service and sent to the Sons of Veterans of California to be kept. You will find a letter from David F. Morris to Col. Harry T. Moore, in the introduction to the roll of honor, referring to this flag and this banner, and the manner of their capture. They were taken from the Church of the Parish of San Roque, a few miles out of Manila, and were captured by a company composed almost exclusively of sons of veterans. I simply asked leave of the Division of California to bring them here as a further evidence of the valor of our brothers who are now engaged in the Philippino War. [Applause.]

RECESS UNTIL 4 O'CLOCK P.M.

William E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I now renew my motion that the Commandery-in-Chief take recess until 4 o'clock P.M.

The motion was agreed to and the Commandery-in-Chief took recess until 4 o'clock P.M.

SATURDAY — AFTERNOON SESSION.

4 o'clock P.M.

The Commandery-in-Chief met pursuant to adjournment.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Commandery-in-Chief will come to order.

The Inspector-General does not seem to be present. I will ask the Surgeon-General to act as Inspector-General, and Colonel Archer to act as Assistant Inspector-General. Brother Davis, will you please assist at the door and take the password and countersign as the members come in, and report if you are satisfied that all present are entitled to remain.

Assistant Inspector-General Archer: Commander-in-Chief, I am satisfied that all present are entitled to remain.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

The Commander-in-Chief: The only further business before this Encampment is the installation of the newly elected officers. I have the honor to ask Past Commander-in-Chief James Lewis Rake to act as our installing officer. The Inspector-General will escort him to the chair.

Surgeon-General McDowell: Commander, I have the honor to present General Rake, who will act, under your appointment, as installing officer.

The Commander-in-Chief: General Rake, I have the honor to pass over to you this gavel, the emblem of authority.

Installing Officer Rake: Adjutant-General, you will call the roll of officers-elect, who, as their names are called, will rise, answer to their names and present themselves at the altar.

Whereupon, the newly elected officers, with the exception of the Commander-in-Chief elect, were installed in due form, and escorted to their several stations.

Installing Officer Rake: The Commander-in-Chief elect will please announce his staff.

Commander-in-Chief elect Jones: Installing Officer Rake, I am not prepared to name my staff completely to-day, but will have to ask brothers for a little indulgence as to time in the performance of that duty. The present Adjutant-General will continue to act as Adjutant-General until a further appointment is made. My Inspector-General will be Brother Alfred G. Loyd of Sharpsburg, Pa.; my Judge Advocate-General, F. T. F. Johnson of Maryland; Surgeon-General, C. W. Staples of Lyndonville, Vt. They are not present, and will be installed later.

Commander-in-Chief elect Jones was then duly installed and assumed command.

PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

W. Y. Morgan of Kansas: Commander, before proceeding any further I would here move that the usual precedent be followed and that the Quartermaster-General be instructed to have prepared for distribution, at as early a date as possible, the usual number of printed copies of the proceedings of this Encampment.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I move that the minutes of this Commandery-in-Chief, as recorded by the official stenographer, be approved without reading.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to.

PRESENTATION OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S BADGE.

The Commander-in-Chief: Commander, I will ask Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard to kindly come forward and receive, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, the Past Commander-in-Chief's badge. It will be presented by Adjutant-General Abbott.

GENERAL ABBOTT'S PRESENTATION SPEECH.

General Abbott: Brother Shepard, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief and on behalf of the members of this Order, a particularly pleasant duty falls to my lot; pleasant yet sad, for it marks the close of a year of most delightful official relation between you and me; yet it is a pleasure to present to you the badge that brings you into the family of Past Commanders-in-Chief, whose names have been so closely identified with the building up of this organization. You are welcome to

stand up in line with Maccabe and Bundy, Rake and Darling and other brothers who have done so much for this organization. I could pass a good deal of time in going over and rehearsing what you have done, for no one understands more thoroughly than myself how completely you have filled the position of Commander-in-Chief, how loyal and how devoted you have been at all times to the Order, and to the brothers of the Order; and as an emblem and a token of your duty well performed, it is my privilege at this time to present to you the badge of a Past Commander-in-Chief. You have earned it by faithful service, and every brother rejoices that you are thus honored, and I, particularly and personally, feel that it is most worthily bestowed. General Shepard, I welcome you into the ranks of Past Commanders-in-Chief. [Applause.]

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SHEPARD'S RESPONSE.

Past Commander-in-Chief Shepard: Commander-in-Chief, Brother Abbott and my Brothers of the Order, I had the presumption to assume that I would receive a decoration, the decoration of Past Commander-in-Chief, but I confess that I did not suppose the brothers were going to take from the sky the stars and set them in this circle of gold. To receive this emblem from this brotherhood would be a great honor to any one. It is certainly a very great honor to me. It is impossible for me to adequately express my appreciation of the honors conferred upon me, not only during the past year but during the previous years, and for this honor conferred upon me at this time. We have a friendship, I believe, in the Order of Sons of Veterans that is not like that in any other organization. Many of us belong to other societies and other orders, but there is a peculiar and lasting love and affection that belongs particularly to the Order of the Sons of Veterans. It is impossible for me, as I said, to adequately respond to this bestowal that has come to me from you, my brothers. I can only wish that the friendships we have formed through our efforts for the organization of the Sons of Veterans will last through life, that close friendship that I have referred to, that affection for the organization and for one another, that friendship which it seems to me is the only artist that can strew the weary walks of life with the flowers of joy and happiness; and it is my wish for all of us that when we reach the sundown side of our lives, that friendship may still be green and fair; and we may still feel that same love and affection for one another. I thank you, brothers, from the bottom of my heart. [Applause.]

Commander-in-Chief Jones: Brothers, before we proceed to close I want to say one word, and I do not propose to take your time but for a moment. I know that I am speaking now to the men who control, who govern, who make the Order of the Sons of Veterans in the United States. I know that your wish and your action will determine whether in the year that is coming the Order shall grow, or whether it shall diminish. I, for my part, am very anxious to make a record as we all are, of making something good for this Order in the year to come; and I beg of you, and I command my staff that they shall be working members of this Order this year. [Applause.]

And while I have the right to direct my staff I know they would do everything in their power without any order; and I want to ask every member of this Order to take hold and see if we cannot make the Order of the Sons of Veterans grow until we put it in a commanding position in these United States. I want to see it, in time, as it must be, the successor of that grand organization, the Grand Army of the Republic. The old ones are going. The roll-call is shortened every year. Pretty soon the Sons of Veterans must become the successors of that great organization. Let us make ourselves worthy to be successors of those grand men, our fathers who have gone before us.

Now I beg of you all let us make this a working year, and I want every member of this Order to be free, and not only want you to feel free to make suggestions, but I ask it as a favor to me that you will suggest to me, and suggest to my staff and suggest to your brothers anything that you think will make for the upbuilding and aid in strengthening this Order. It is a grand Order; it is next to the Grand Army of the Republic, the grandest Order that exists on this continent or any other. [Applause.]

Is there any further business to come before the Encampment before we proceed to close?

Dan S. Gardner of Ohio: Commander, before dispersing I suggest that we hear from our newly-made Past Commander-in-Chief Reed of Pennsylvania.

ADDRESS OF PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF R. M. J. REED.

R. M. J. Reed of Pennsylvania: Commander, I do not intend to make a speech. I am glad of the opportunity to thank the brothers of this Commandery-in-Chief for the honor they have this day bestowed upon me. My abiding and unalterable belief in the future of this Order adds very greatly, in my estimation, to its value. I believe, as the Commander-in-Chief has said: "When the Grand Army shall have been mustered out, this Order of Sons of Veterans must be its legitimate and natural successor." I hope that I shall live to see it become the great patriotic factor that shall forever keep alive the principles for which our fathers fought. Twenty years ago I helped rock the cradle of the organization, and so long as I shall be permitted to live, I shall continue to uphold and advocate its cause. [Applause.] I am naturally proud of my record as a soldier in the Union Army, and when I answer the last roll call that record will be the most priceless heritage I can leave to my children; and side by side with that record there will hang my record and commission as a Past Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans. [Applause.] It is my wish that with the brothers, I shall always be "Dick." If, however, I must have a title, let it be that title which "Uncle Sam" gave me for years of faithful service; and so among the "boys" let it be "Dick." I thank you again and again. [Applause.]

A. E. B. Stephens of Ohio: Commander, I move that this Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans now proceed to close in due form and then adjourn *sine die*.

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S BADGE FOR R. M. J. REED.

F. H. B. McDowell of Wisconsin: Commander, before that motion is put, I move you that the Council-in-Chief be directed to secure and confer upon Major Reed a Past Commander-in-Chief's badge.

Forrest W. Briggs of Pennsylvania: Commander, I second the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

R. M. J. Reed of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief, I don't want the Commandery-in-Chief to go to that expense for me. Understand me, it is not because I would not appreciate it, because there is nothing I would love better to possess; but I do not want this Commandery-in-Chief to be at that expense. In the years gone by, when there was no money to spend, I paid my own expenses, and I do not want the Commandery to be at any expense now because they conferred this honor and distinction upon me. I thank you all the same.

ADJOURNMENT, *sine die.*

A. E. B. Stephens of Ohio: Commander, I now renew my motion that the Encampment proceed to close, and adjourn *sine die.*

The motion was seconded.

The motion was agreed to and the Encampment was closed in due form, and adjourned, *sine die.*

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 15, 1899.

The foregoing is a true and correct record and report of the Proceedings of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., held in the Masonic Auditorium, Detroit, Mich., Sept. 7, 8 and 9, A.D. 1899, as reported by the official stenographer.

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Past Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Past Adjutant-General.

RECORD OF ROLL CALLS.

Eighteenth Annual Encampment
OF THE
COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S.V., U.S.A.

The following shows those members of the Encampment answering roll calls: —

P, present; — A, accredited; — O, absent.

		Roll 1	Roll 2
COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF OFFICERS.			
Commander-in-Chief, Frank L. Shepard	A	P	P
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, George E. Cox	A	P	P
Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Z. C. Green	A	P	
Council-in-Chief, H. H. Hammer	A	P	P
Council-in-Chief, J. E. Haycraft	A	P	P
Council-in-Chief, J. D. Rowen	A	P	P
Adjutant-General, G. B. Abbott	A	P	
Quartermaster-General, Fred E. Bolton	A	P	P
Inspector-General, Forrest W. Briggs	A	P	P
Judge Advocate-General, James W. Noel	A	P	P
Surgeon-General, F. H. B. McDowell			
Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. A. J. Morris			
PAST COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF.			
Frank P. Merrill	A		
George W. Marks	A		
*Walter S. Payne			
Louis M. Wagner	A		
G. B. Abbott	A	P	P
Charles F. Griffin	A	P	
Edwin Earp	A		
Bartow S. Weeks	A		
Joseph B. Maccabe	A	P	
William E. Bundy	A	P	P
W. H. Russell	A		
James Lewis Rake	A	P	P
Charles K. Darling	A	P	P
PAST GRAND DIVISION COMMANDERS.			
Frank H. Challis	A		
I. S. Bangs	A		
W. E. W. Ross	A		
Raphael Tobias	A		
*Walter S Payne			
R. M. J. Reed	A	O	P
E. Howard Gilkey			
CONSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS.			
W. E. W. Ross	A		
I. S. Bangs	A		
J. A. Rodrigo	A		
William H. Pierpont	A		
John A. Thompson	A		
W. S. Eldredge	A	P	P
R. M. J. Reed	A	P	P
O. B. Brown	A		
William Luther Davis	A		
Charles A. Bookwalker	A	O	P
Hon. John M. Thurston	A	P	P

* Suspended.

The following named are entitled to a seat and vote in the Eighteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, as representatives of their respective Divisions, having been duly reported as such to the Adjutant-General, on Form No. 50, as required by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations: —

		Roll 1	Roll 2
ALABAMA AND TENNESSEE.			
Commander, W. F. Bolin	A		
Past Commanders, M. D. Friedman	A		
Past Commanders, R. W. Biese	A		
Past Commanders, W. R. Cooper	A		
Past Commanders, W. D. Good	A		
Past Commanders, V. Gilb, Jr	A		
Past Commanders, J. W. V. R Plummer	A		
Past Commanders, J. G. Crumbliss	A		
Past Commanders, E R. Carter	A		
Past Commanders, L. W. Friedman	A		
Past Commanders, H. T Cooper	A		
Delegate-at-Large, F. L. Holden	A		
Delegate, F. C. Reep	A		
Alternate-at-Large, R. M. Childress	A		
Alternate, S. R. Rambo	A		
CALIFORNIA.			
Commander, Harry T. Moore	A		
Past Commanders, L. DeP. Callahan	A		
Past Commanders, C. J. Callahan	A		
Past Commanders, E. C. Robinson	A		
Past Commanders, Fred V. Wood	A		
Past Commanders, F. W. Bunnell	A		
Past Commanders, F. C. Shipley	A		
Past Commanders, Chas. L. Pierce	A		
Delegate-at-Large, J A. Wagener	A		
Delegate, A. E. Ade	A		
Alternate-at-Large, Geo. A. Richardson	A		
Alternate, M. E. V. Bogart	A		
COLORADO.			
Commander, Geo. S. Milone	A		
Past Commanders, F. C. McArthur	A		
Past Commanders, H. D. Kendig	A		
Past Commanders, L W. Kennedy*	A		
Past Commanders, C. H. Anderson	A		
Past Commanders, Adam C. Patton*	A		
Past Commanders, B. G. Robbins	A		
Past Commanders, Harlan Thomas*	A		
Past Commanders, Paul H. Limback*	A		
Delegate-at-Large, Joseph H. Powell*	A		
Delegate, W. H. Tufford	A		
Alternate-at-Large, Charles Moberly	A		
Alternate, Ray S. Minton	A		
CONNECTICUT.			
Commander, Edson S. Bishop	A	P	O
Past Commanders, W. H. Pierpont	A		
Past Commanders, G. B. Smith	A		
Past Commanders, H. W. Wessels	A		
Past Commanders, A. E. Chandler	A		
Past Commanders, B. R. Singleton	A		
Past Commanders, F. S. Valentine	A		

* Suspended June 30, 1899.

CONNECTICUT — *Continued.*		Roll 1	Roll 2
Past Commanders,	W. N. Barber	A	
	W. J. Bissell	A	
	Geo. E. Cox	A	P	P
	W. W. Wheeler	A	
	Leon L. Hall	A	
Delegate-at-Large, William Parmelee		A	P	P
Delegates,	Rev. J. E. Zeiter	A	P	P
	C. F. Loomis, Jr.	A	P	P
Alternate-at-Large, Geo. W. Fletcher		A	
Alternates,	Allen T. Pratt	A	
	E. C. Booth	A	

GULF.

(No Report.)

ILLINOIS.

Commander, Will C. Schneider		A	P	P
Past Commanders,	R. V. Mallory	A		
	G. B. Abbott	A	P	P
	F. McCrillis	A		
	C. T. Orner	A	P	P
	Geo. B. Stadden	A		P
	Geo. H. Hurlbut	A		
	C. G Marsh	A	P	P
	Jno. D. Hall	A		
	F. L. Shepard	A	P	P
	Wm. G. Dustin	A	P	P
	John R. Neeley	A		
	S. E. Thomasson	A		
	William T. Church	A	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, Isaac Cutter		A	P	P
Delegate, John S. Simpson		A	P	P
Alternates appointed by Commander,	O. L. Day	A	P	P
	A. F. Brett	A	P	P
	F. J. Strong	A	P	P

INDIANA.

Commander, H. O P Cline		A	P	P
Past Commanders,	J. W. Newton	A		
	George C. Harvey	A		
	Newton J. McGuire	A	P	P
	Frank Martin	A		
	R. B. Oglesbee	A		
	Jno. E. Edmonson†	A		
	Wm. H. Armstrong†	A		
	R. R. Thompson	A	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, Harold C. Megrew		A		P
Delegates,	Geo. F. Ogden	A	P	P
	Schuyler Tipton	A	P	P
	Harry Martin*	A		
Alternate-at-Large, Frank Graham		A		
Alternates,	Lee C. Reed	A		
	E. E. Massey	A		
	T. E. Firgly	A		

* Division only entitled to two delegates besides Delegate-at-Large.
† Past Provisional Commanders.

		Roll 1	Roll 2
IOWA.			
Commander, Will A. Brown	A		
Past Commanders, J. D. Rowen	A	P	O
Past Commanders, L. A. Dilley	A		
Past Commanders, A. L. Sortor, Jr.	A	P	P
Past Commanders, H. M. Hanson	A		
Past Commanders, E. E. Hawkes	A		
Past Commanders, John H. Pickett	A		
Past Commanders, A. T. Wilson	A		
Past Commanders, W. W. Bisby	A		
Delegate-at-Large, Guy R. Carson	A		
Delegate, A. W. Buchanan	A		
Alternate-at-Large, J. A. Hartman	A		
Alternate, J. W. Petty	A		
KANSAS.			
Commander, L. B. Price	A	P	P
Past Commanders, C. D. Jones	A		
Past Commanders, E. H. Madison	A		
Past Commanders, W. Y. Morgan	A	P	
Past Commanders, Grant W. Harrington	A		
Past Commanders, W. P. Feder	A		
Past Commanders, John Redmond	A		
Past Commanders, W. P. Wilcox	A		
Delegate-at-Large	A		
Delegates, C Borin	A	P	P
Delegates, J. L. Papes	A	P	P
Alternate, Lee Harrison	A		
KENTUCKY.			
Commander, Alexander Hamilton	A		
Past Commanders, George H Capito	A		
Past Commanders, Fred G Singleton	A		
Past Commanders, W. R. Heflin	A		
Past Commanders, W. N. Evans	A		
Past Commanders, Will A. Field	A		
Past Commanders, B. F. McClelland	A		
Past Commanders, T. Z. Morrow, Jr.	A		
Past Commanders, E. H. Hansford	A		
Delegate-at-Large, Vola G. Trimble	A		
Delegate, J. M Mayfield	A		
Alternate-at-Large, John Stebbins	A		
Alternate, John P. Taylor	A		
MAINE.			
Commander, Edward H. Smith	A		
Past Commanders, A. S. Libby	A		
Past Commanders, Charles H. Rice	A		
Past Commanders, E. K. Gould	A		
Past Commanders, T G Libby	A		
Past Commanders, W. H. Perry	A		
Past Commanders, C. H. Hutchins	A		
Past Commanders, A. C. Cloudman	A		
Past Commanders, E. C. Moran	A		
Past Commanders, C. E. Merrill	A		
Past Commanders, R. L. Whitcomb	A		
Past Commanders, H. C. Chatto	A		
Past Commanders, Fred E. Fairfield	A		
Past Commanders, L. L. Cooper	A		
Past Commanders, Arthur M. Soule	A		
Past Commanders, George E. Leighton	A		

		Roll 1	Roll 2
MAINE — *Continued.*			
Delegate-at-Large, Henry G. Thomas	A	P	P
Delegates, L. O. Haskell	A		
Delegates, E. W. Crawford	A		
Delegates, C. H. Mills	A		
Alternate-at-Large, George W. Gray	A		
Alternates not chosen.			
MARYLAND.			
Commander, Geo. S. Whitmore	A	P	P
Past Commanders, Miles W. Ross	A		
Past Commanders, E. R. Campbell	A	P	P
Past Commanders, Robt. W. Wilson	A		
Past Commanders, Otto L. Suess	A		
Past Commanders, Frank A. White	A		
Past Commanders, Frank O. Peterson	A		
Past Commanders, Edward K. DePuy	A		
Past Commanders, William B. King	A		
Delegate-at-Large, Edgar Allen, Jr.	A	P	P
Delegate, F T. F. Johnson	A	P	P
Alternate-at-Large, H. H. Henry	A		
Alternate, E. E. Vannorsdale	A		
MASSACHUSETTS.			
Commander, Geo. N. Howard	A	P	P
Past Commanders, F. J. Bradford	A		
Past Commanders, J. B. Maccabe	A	P	O
Past Commanders, C. F. Sargent	A		
Past Commanders, H S. Crossman	A		
Past Commanders, J. H. Hinckley	A		
Past Commanders, N. C. Upham	A		
Past Commanders, D. B. Purbeck	A		
Past Commanders, C. K. Darling	A	P	P
Past Commanders, Wm. A. Stevens	A		
Past Commanders, W. H. Delano	A		
Past Commanders, A C. Blaisdell	A		
Past Commanders, D. F Goulding	A		
Past Commanders, F. E. Bolton	A	P	P
Past Commanders, G. W Knowlton	A		
Past Commanders, Harry D. Sisson	A	P	P
Past Commanders, Orange H. Cook	A		
Past Commanders, Leonard C. Couch	A	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, Emery Coulter	A	P	P
Delegates, C. D. Rooney	A		
Delegates, J. H. Fayerweather	A	P	P
Delegates, F. L. Kirchgassner	A	P	P
Delegates, P. L. Parker	A	P	P
Delegates, A. E. Leighton	A	P	P
Delegates, T. S. Bell	A	P	P
Delegates, B. F. Cook	A	P	P
MICHIGAN.			
Commander, C. J. Post	A	P	P
Past Commanders, F. M. Williams	A		
Past Commanders, F. D. Eddy	A		P
Past Commanders, F. C. Stillson	A		P
Past Commanders, F. F. McMurtrie	A	P	
Past Commanders, E R. Henderson	A	P	P
Past Commanders, H. E. Cowdin	A		
Past Commanders, George E. Cogshall	A	P	P

MICHIGAN — *Continued.*		Roll 1	Roll 2
Delegate-at-Large, Carl A. Wagner	A	P	O
Delegates, H. O. Herrick	A	P	
Delegates, L. E. Merchant	A		
Delegates, Walter L. Raynes	A		P
MINNESOTA.			
Commander, A. O. Allen	A		
Past Commanders, E. H. Milham	A		
Past Commanders, A. S. Morgan	A		
Past Commanders, George F. Kelley	A		
Past Commanders, George H. Sheire	A		
Past Commanders, Francis G Drew	A		
Past Commanders, H. E. Stodieck, Jr.	A		
Past Commanders, M. L. Cormany	A		
Past Commanders, Geo. H Tinker	A		
Delegate-at-Large, Wm. G. Young	A		
Delegate, J. C. Carter	A	P	P
Alternate-at-Large, G. T. Drake	A		
Alternate, J. J. Warner	A		
MISSOURI.			
Commander, B. Prack	A	P	P
Past Commanders, J. J. Speaker	A		
Past Commanders, A. H. Vandivert	A		
Past Commanders, E. R. Durham	A		
Past Commanders, R. Loebenstein	A		
Past Commanders, H. J. Kline	A		
Past Commanders, B. W. Frauenthal	A		
Past Commanders, F. E. Ernst	A		
Past Commanders, E. L. Gottschalk	A		
Past Commanders, W. J. Simmerschied	A		
Past Commanders, Manly Wren	A		
Past Commanders, E. E. Schoening	A		
Past Commanders, J. W S. Dillon	A		
Delegate-at-Large, C. C. Behnke	A		P
Delegate, A. P. Kelso	A		
NEBRASKA.			
Commander, J. H. Heine	A	P	O
Past Commanders, F. J. Coates	A		
Past Commanders, Geo. F. Wolz	A		
Past Commanders, F. A. Agnew	A		
Past Commanders, A. H. Rawitzer	A	P	O
Past Commanders, Moses P. O'Brien	A		
Past Commanders, J C. Elliott *	A		
Delegate-at-Large, W. F. Jacobs	A		
Delegate, C. C. Stull	A		
Alternate-at-Large, O L. Solisbury	A		
Alternate, H. W. Rogers, Jr.	A	O	P
NEW HAMPSHIRE.			
Commander, E. B. Falsom	A		
Past Commanders, F. H. Challis	A		
Past Commanders, F. E. Libby	A		
Past Commanders, Michael Crowley	A		
Past Commanders, Ben O. Robey	A		
Past Commanders, Frank P. Perkins	A		
Past Commanders, James H. Joyce	A		

* Suspended.

		Roll 1	Roll 2
NEW HAMPSHIRE — *Continued.*			
Past Commanders, Frank C. Smith	A		
Past Commanders, C. H. Little	A		
Past Commanders, John H. Twombly	A		
Past Commanders, W. S. Willy	A		
Past Commanders, H. E. Chamberlain	A		
Delegate-at-Large, Harry A. Brown	A		
Delegate, C. G. M. Nathan	A		
Alternate-at-Large, Linwood B. Emery	A		
Alternate, Leon W. Bilsborough	A		
NEW JERSEY.			
Commander, Geo. H. Bailey	A	P	P
Past Commanders, Fred D. Morse	A		
Past Commanders, Andrew Derrom, Jr	A		
Past Commanders, T. H. Edmonds	A		
Past Commanders, A. L. Sparks	A		
Past Commanders, Geo. W. Politt	A		
Past Commanders, James E. Pierson	A		
Past Commanders, James B. Adams	A		
Past Commanders, Lewis L. Drake	A		
Past Commanders, Ed. C. White	A		
Past Commanders, Jas. M. Mathews	A		
Delegate-at-Large, Fremont Tietze	A		
Delegates, Harry A. Douglas	A		
Delegates, James W. Davis, Jr	A	P	P
Alternate-at-Large, Frank M. Cunningham	A		
Alternates, Zachariah Brogden	A		
Alternates, Henry Gundersdorf	A		
NEW YORK.			
Commander, Ralph Sheldon	A	P	P
Past Commanders, M. J. Downing	A		
Past Commanders, E. W. Hatch	A		
Past Commanders, J. C. Sawyer	A		
Past Commanders, J. E. Hedges	A		
Past Commanders, George Addington	A	O	P
Past Commanders, W. H. Wyker	A		P
Past Commanders, A. Hoeffling	A		
Past Commanders, C. E. Holmes	A	P	P
Past Commanders, W. S. Oberdorf	A	P	P
Past Commanders, L. J. Macy	A		
Past Commanders, W. K. West	A		
Past Commanders, A. G. Courtney	A		
Past Commanders, J. M. Diven	A		P
Past Commanders, W. H. Robertson	A		
Past Commanders, Burt E. Fisher	A		
Past Commanders, E. W. Estes	A	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, J. G. Swan	A	P	P
Delegates, W. McWhirter	A	P	P
Delegates, F. P. Connell	A	P	P
Delegates, H. P. Hollister	A	P	P
Delegates, J. Frank Dunton	A	P	P
Delegates, E. C. Parkinson	A	P	P
Delegates, H. H. Parker	A		P
Delegates, W. A. Personius	A	P	P
Alternate-at-Large,	A		
Alternates, Geo H. Pease	A		
Alternates, H. G. Morgan	A		
Alternates, L. J. Dambman	A		
Alternates, Chas. H. Heimsoth	A		

			Roll 1	Roll 2
NEW YORK— *Continued.*				
Alternates,	Edward Harrigan	A		
	J. V. G. Bogart	A		
	Thomas Aitken	A		
OHIO.				
Commander,	A. E. B. Stephens	A	P	P
Past Commanders,	E. H. Gilkey	A		
	H. R. Bacon	A	P	P
	Walter S. Payne*	A		
	W. C. Wyckoff	A		
	F. W. Myers	A	P	P
	George A Ensign	A		
	Henry Frazee	A		
	George W. Leonard	A		
	William E. Bundy	A	P	P
	C. J. Deckman	A		P
	J V. Hilliard	A		
	Fillmore Musser	A		
	Dan S. Gardner	A	P	P
	Don C. Cable	A		
	L. V. Williams	A		
	D. Q Morrow	A		
	A. W. Jones	A	P	P
	E H. Archer	A	P	P
Delegate-at-Large,	H. V. Speelman	A	P	P
Delegates,	J. E. Orr	A	P	P
	H. S. Buckland	A		
	W. E. Baldwin	A	P	P
	R. L. Atchison	A		P
Alternate-at-Large,	H. D. Ketcham	A		
Alternates,	V. E. Price	A		
	C. H. A. Palmer	A		P
	A. C. Messenger	A		
	J. W. Swift	A		
OREGON.				
Commander,	Elmer Hardesty	A		
Past Commanders,	L. W. Oren	A		
	Walter Ross	A		
Delegate-at-Large,	Walter Ross	A		
Delegate,	L. W. Oren	A		
Alternate-at-Large,	E L. Littlefield	A		
Alternate,	E. Hardesty	A		
PENNSYLVANIA.				
Commander,	S. S. Horn	A	P	P
Past Commanders,	J. H. Closson	A		
	L. M. Wagner	A		
	R. M J Reed	A		P
	E. W. Alexander	A		
	Robt. E. Hopkins	A		P
	W. H. Smith	A		
	H H. Hammer	A	P	P
	J. H. Seiferth	A		
	H. M. Russell	A		
	C. J Miller	A		
	J. L. Rake	A	P	P
	W B. McNulty	A		
	G. W. Gerhard	A		
	H. M. Rebele	A		P
	Walter E. Smith	A		

* Suspended.

			Roll 1	Roll 2
PENNSYLVANIA — *Continued.*				
Past Commanders,	Chas. L. John	A		
	C E. Diefenderfer	A		
	James H. Tawney	A		
	Wildun Scott	A		
	A. S. Moulthrop	A	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, Rev Otto Brandt		A	P	P
Delegates,	Walter R Ross	A		P
	J. W. C. Austin	A		
	G. W. Dubbs	A		P
	John Whiteman	A		P
	J. M. Ruch	A		P
	S. W. Macurdy	A	P	P
	Fred Stark	A	P	P
	W. O Foster	A		
	L C Brown	A		
	T. W. Bibighaus	A		
	J. M Milligan	A		P
	S. D. Coldren	A	P	P
	W. L. Mathews	A		
Alternates,	C. M. Dingle	A		
	John Bradley	A		
	Gus Rhodes	A		
	H. E. Custer	A		
	S. C. Steuber	A		
	James Mann	A		
	Edw. Newman	A		
	E. T. Kelly	A		
	Wm. Leber	A		
	Geo. Fritz	A		
	L. H Stedge	A		
	C. C. Morton	A		
	H. R. Willhide	A		
RHODE ISLAND.				
Commander, F. E. Carpenter		A	P	P
Past Commanders.	Chas H. West	A		
	T. A. Barton	A		
	T. M. Sweetland	A		
	Wm. M. P. Bowen	A		
	R. H. Dexter	A		
	A. B. Spink	A		
	H. S. Thompson	A		
	Chas W. Abbott, Jr	A		
	W. R. Williams	A		
Delegate-at-Large, R. L. Oatley		A		P
Delegate, Rev. H. C. Dana		A		
Alternate-at-Large, H. D. Gifford		A		
Alternate, C. E. Matteson		A		
SOUTH DAKOTA.				
Commander, W. A. Morris		A	P	P
Past Commanders.	L D. Lyon	A		
	Z. C. Green	A	P	P
	R. J Courtney	A		
	C. C. Brass	A		
Delegate-at-Large, G. A. Drake		A	P	P
Delegate, M. E. North		A		
Alternate-at-Large, Walter Anderson		A		
Alternate, R. L Hunsberger		A		

		Roll 1	Roll 2
VERMONT.			
Commander, Ira E. Morse	A		
Past Commanders, C. F. R. Jenne	A		
G E. Terrill	A		
John E. Fox	A		
F. L. Eaton	A		
E. T. Griswold	A		
H. O. Bixby	A		
Geo. O. Webster	A		
William M. Sargent	A		
F. L. Green	A		
H. S Foster	A		
E. T. Monahan	A		
Arthur I. Howe	A		
W. W. Lapoint	A		
Delegate-at-Large, Elmer E. Perry	A		
Delegates, Nelson F. Kelly	A	P	P
Geo. D. Van Steinberg	A		
WASHINGTON.			
Commander, Chas. E. Plimpton	A		
Past Commanders, B. W. Coiner	A		
E. W. Young	A		
Harry Rosenhaupt	A	P	P
W. H. Fletcher	A		
W. L. Jones	A		
W W. Sparks	A		
W. F. Locks	A		
C. V. Savidge	A		
W. T. Cavanaugh	A		
Delegate-at-Large, H. H. Hubbard	A		
Delegate, G. L. Hooker	A		
WEST VIRGINIA.			
Commander, J. W. McClung	A		
Past Commanders, H. B. Baguely*	A		
G. Ed. Sylvis*	A		
R. F. Adams*	A		
Harry W. Thurber*	A		
Delegate-at-Large, R. H. Powell	A		
Delegate, W. R. Robison	A		
Alternate-at-Large, J. G. Boliner	A		
Alternate, A. Montgomery	A		
WISCONSIN.			
Commander, A. G. Braband	A		P
Past Commanders, F. J. Walthers	A		
H. S Fuller	A		
Thomas L. Jacobs	A		
W. J. Patton	A		P
Charles C. Townsend	A	P	P
J. P. Sheridan	A		
C. H. Hudson	A		
R. L. McCormick	A		
R M. Smith	A		P
Delegate-at-Large, H. J. Buchen	A		
Delegate, G. O. Schorse	A		P
Alternate-at-Large, E. T. Fairchild	A		P
Alternate, H. F. Breitung	A		

* Suspended.

INDEX.

Page

Abbott, G. B., elected member of Council-in-Chief 142
Presents jewel to General Shepard 146
Addington, George, elected member of Council-in-Chief 143
Adjutant-General, report of 37
Approval of minutes 146
Address of William T. Church 126
Address of Charles K. Darling 122, 127
Address of A. W. Jones 138
Address of Newton J. McGuire 144
Address of J. L. Rake 133
Address of R. M. J. Reed 124, 148
Address of Frank L. Shepard 147
Address of Senator John M. Thurston 108
Adjournment 149
Badges and Decorations, manufacture of 99, 120
Borin, Columbus, elected constitutional life member 133
Buttonhole decoration 100
Commander-in-Chief:
Election of 138
Report of 9
Jewel presented to 146
Portrait of presented 126
Resolution concerning 121
Commandery-in-Chief, officers of 3
Camps and individuals, communications from 8
Chaplain-in-Chief, report of 96
Circular letters 75
Committee on C., R. & R.:
Appointment of 5
Report of 128
Committee on Fraternal Greetings, authorized 6
Committee on Credentials:
Appointment of 4
Report of 4

Committee on Press, appointment of 6
Committee on Resolutions:
Appointment of 6
Report of 117
Committee on Officers' Reports:
Appointment of 6
Report of 113, 116
Committee on Ritual:
Appointment of 6
Report of 103
Communications from:
Divisions 7
Camps and Individuals 8
Barton, T. A. 124
Milone, George S. 124
Moore, Harry T. 124
Constitutional Life Members, election of 132
Captured Spanish and Filippino flags 144
Council-in-Chief:
Election of 143
Report of 99, 137
Courts-Martial 15, 16, 20, 22, 23, 30, 31, 33, 35
Cutter, Isaac, elected constitutional life member 133
Davis, Maj. A. P., Memorial Resolutions 119
Decorations for S.V. Volunteers 120
Manufacture of 99, 120
Buttonhole (new) 100
Detroit, hospitality of 119
Divisions, communications from 7
Decisions:
Amount of dues from dropped members for reinstatement . . . 17, 32
Camp must reinstate if it accepts dues 18
Camp cannot be court-martialed as a body 24
Camp cannot declare muster void because of failure to collect muster fee 19
Camp can be denied representation in Division Encampment if it fails to pay expense of inspection 21
Captain is entitled to past honors, though not commissioned 18
Case of Ritter Camp No. 24, Division of Ohio 26, 115
Dropped members cannot be reinstated with past honors 23
Elected Quartermasters are commissioned by Commander-in-Chief . . 31
Suspended member is subject to discipline 20
In relation to official printing to be done by fraternal press 35
Son of a member of Captain Paro's company eligible to membership . 26
Early history of the Order, remarks by J. L. Rake 133

Elections:
Commander-in-Chief 138
Council-in-Chief 143
Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 142
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 141
Flags, captured Spanish and Filippino 144
Gavel, presented by Newton J. McGuire 144
G.A.R. Resolutions concerning 118
General Orders 49
Inspector-General, report of 83
Installation of officers 145
Jones, A. W.:
Elected Commander-in-Chief 138
Address of acceptance 138
Jewel:
Presented to Commander-in-Chief Shepard 146
Voted to Past Commander-in-Chief R. M. J. Reed 149
Judge Advocate-General, report of 93
Johnson, F. T. F., appointed Judge Advocate-General 146
Ladies' Aid Society:
Appointment of Committee on 6
Report of committee 104
Greetings from 100
Letters, Circulars 75
Life members, Constitutional, election of 132
Loyd, Alfred G., appointed Inspector-General 146
Medals for members who volunteered in U.S. service 120
Merrill, Frank P., voted past honors 132
Megrew, Harold C., elected constitutional life member 133
Maryland Division, resolution from 130
Military College Committee:
Authorization of 6
Report of 105
Appointment of (new) 141
Nineteenth Annual Encampment:
Milwaukee nominated 135
Syracuse nominated 134
Spokane nominated 136
Syracuse chosen 137
Nominations:
Abbott, G. B., for Council-in-Chief 142
Addington, George, for Council-in-Chief 143
Bailey, Geo. H., for Council-in-Chief 142
Jones, A. W., for Commander-in-Chief 138
Noel, James W., for Council-in-Chief 142

Nominations — *Continued.*
Patton, W. J., for Council-in-Chief 142
Rawitzer, A. H., for Council-in-Chief 143
Raynes, Walter L., for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 142
Sortor, A. L. Jr., for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 141
Official Organ, *The Banner* made 117
Officers:
Election of 138
Installation of 145
Official Circulars 75
Opinions (See Decisions, etc.),
Orders:
General 49
Special 69
Parkinson, E. C., elected constitutional life member 133
Past Honors conferred on:
Reed, R. M. J. 133
Merrill, Frank P. 132
Purdy, James E. 118
Patton, W. J., elected Council-in-Chief 143
Proceedings, publication of 146
Presentations:
Of gavel by Newton J. McGuire 144
Of jewel to Commander-in-Chief Shepard 146
Of portrait of Commander-in-Chief Shepard 126
Purdy, James E., voted Past Honors 118
Quartermaster-General, report of 77
Rake, J. L., on early history of the Order 133
Appointed Installing Officer 145
Raynes, Walter L., elected Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 142
Reed, R. M. J.
Voted past honors 133
Jewel voted to 149
Reports of:
Adjutant-General 37
Chaplain-in-Chief 96
Commander-in-Chief 9
Committee on C , R. & R. 128
Committee on Credentials 4
Committee on Military College 105
Committee on Officers' Reports 113, 116
Committee on Resolutions 117
Committee on Ritual 103
Committee on Greetings to L.A.S. 104
Council-in-Chief 99, 137
Inspector-General 83

Reports of — *Continued.*
Judge Advocate-General 93
Quartermaster-General 77
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 36
Stenographer, made official 146
Resolutions:
Report of Committee on 117
From Maryland Division 130
Concerning *The Banner* 117
Concerning James E. Purdy 118
Concerning Commander-in-Chief Shepard 121
Concerning L.A.S. 118
Concerning G.A.R. 118
Concerning Maj. A. P. Davis 119
Spanish War Veterans 118
Harry L. Veazey 119
Perversion of Memorial Day 119
Detroit Hospitality 119
Manufacture of badges 120
Decoration for S.V. Volunteers 120
Concerning Frank P. Merrill 132
Ritual, report of Committee on 103
Roll-calls, records of 5, 8, 136, 143, 151
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief:
Election of 141
Report of 36
Sortor, A. L. Jr., elected Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 141
Staples, C W., appointed Surgeon-General 146
Surgeon-General, report of 93
Thurston, Senator John M.
Vote of thanks to 112
Tables, statistical 45
Veazey, Harry L., Memorial Resolutions 119

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

Nineteenth Annual Encampment

...of the...

Commandery-in-Chief,

Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

1900

HELD IN

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

SEPTEMBER 11, 12 and 13

Officers and Staff,

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,

1900–1901.

Commander-in-Chief:

E. W. ALEXANDER . . . . . READING, PA.

Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief:

A. H. RAWITZER . . . . . OMAHA, NEB.

Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief:

CHARLES S. DAVIS . . . . . WASHINGTON, D.C.

Council-in-Chief:

DON C. CABLE . . . . . NELSONVILLE, OHIO.
C. J. POST . . . . . GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.
JAMES B. ADAMS . . . . . ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.

Adjutant-General:

H. H. HAMMER . . . . . READING, PA.

Quartermaster-General:

FRED E. BOLTON, Room 947 Tremont Building . . . BOSTON, MASS.

Inspector-General:

E. F. BUCK . . . . . PEORIA, ILL.

Judge Advocate-General:

E. B. FOLSOM . . . . . DOVER, N.H.

Surgeon-General:

DR. A. W. A. TRAVER . . . . . PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Chaplain-in-Chief:

R. S. THOMPSON . . . . . RISING SUN, IND.

DATE MICROFILMED
Feb. 28, 1990
ITEM # 8
PROJECT and ROLL # VLIB 7-102 2869
G. S. CALL # 1320945

A. W. JONES,

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,

1899-1900.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NINETEENTH

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

OF THE

SONS OF VETERANS,

U.S.A.

HELD IN

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK,

SEPTEMBER 11TH, 12TH AND 13TH,

1900.

BOSTON, MASS.:
E. B. STILLINGS & CO., 55 SUDBURY STREET.
1900.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

TUESDAY — MORNING SESSION.

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Sept. 11, 1900.

The Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., convened in City Hall, at 10 o'clock A.M., with Commander-in-Chief Asa W. Jones in the chair.

The Commander-in-Chief: We are assembled here in this beautiful city of Syracuse, in the grand State of New York, to discharge the duties of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment, and without further remarks, I am pleased to note that we have with us this morning Acting Mayor M. L. McCarthy of this city, who has a few words to say. I have the pleasure of presenting Acting Mayor McCarthy. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Assistant Corporation Counsel, M. L. McCarthy: Mr. Commander, Sons of Veterans, and gentlemen: In the absence of our worthy mayor and the acting mayor (I am flattered when I am called the acting mayor, as, gentlemen, I am not) it devolves upon me to have the pleasure of bidding you gentlemen welcome to Syracuse.

It is nearly forty years ago that your fathers, when treason showed its head, for the purpose of upholding that starry flag, marched shoulder to shoulder, braving disease, braving the bullets of the foe, and for four long years waged battles which resulted in glorious victory.

The men of that generation are rapidly passing away. While we have with us in this community, and in every community throughout the land, many of those who are still active in business and professional life, still, as the Decoration Day parade passes through the streets of the cities and villages of this land, the looker-on can see that the steps of those men are growing more feeble, their hair is tinged with more white each year, and in a few more years there will be but few of them left. It is meet and fitting that the sons of those heroic men, who fought for and upheld the flag, to preserve the country, should perpetuate the memory of their brave deeds.

As I understand it, gentlemen, among the purposes of your organization is to perpetuate the memory of those brave deeds, and to teach patriotism and loyalty to the flag and to the nation, and it is meet and proper that it should be done. The world never witnessed such a war as that in which your fathers fought and won, and it is only a just tribute to them that you, their sons, should seek, as I have said, should perpetuate the memory of those glorious deeds.

Gentlemen, this city is called throughout this State of New York the Convention City. More conventions meet in this city probably than in any city of the State of New York, and it is always a source of pride and pleasure to the citizens of Syracuse to see conventions gather, and it is particularly pleasing when I see here the men who have gathered together in this convention. When I see men here from the far distant West,— men who, like your commander and others, have attained fame and prominence in their States and in their professions,— when I see them journeying here, leaving their homes, leaving their business, to meet with you, preside over your deliberations, and give you the counsel which they are so able to give, it is no common organization that brings together such men as that from distant cities, men of their caliber. But, gentlemen, I am outrunning my time. I know and feel that you will profit by this gathering, that it will benefit your Order and organization, that you will go home feeling greater love for the old flag [Applause], that you will go home strengthened.

I see by the papers that you are now seeking to establish a university where these things are to be taught, and where your children, and children's children will be taught love and loyalty for the nation. [Applause.] I do not know, gentlemen, who conceived the idea of the organization of that institution, but whoever he may be, whether he may be the highest member of your organization, or whether he may be the lowest, he is entitled, not only to your thanks, but to the thanks of the entire country. [Applause.]

Gentlemen, on behalf of the city of Syracuse, on behalf of its citizens, we turn over the city to you. We hope you will have a profitable, as I know you will, and a pleasant time, and that when you gather next year, in whatever city you select as the gathering place for your organization, that you will think kindly and friendly of your stay and entertainment in the city of Syracuse. Gentlemen, Syracuse bids you welcome. [Great applause.]

Commander-in-Chief: It is a great pleasure to me personally, and I know to every one of you, that we have with us our distinguished friend and brother from Iowa, Governor Jackson, who will now respond to this kind address of welcome. [Great applause and cheering.]

RESPONSE TO ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Gov. Frank D. Jackson of Iowa: It is my pleasing duty, Mr. Mayor, to extend to you, and through you to the citizens of this beautiful city, our heartfelt thanks for your cordial welcome. This duty is doubly pleasing to me, when I take into account the fact that for more than thirty-five years I have been a resident of a western State, and now to be honored by our Commander with the pleasing task of extending the thanks and appreciation of this grand Order of Sons of Veterans to citizens of my native State. How well do I remember the glorious boyhood days spent here on the banks of old Cataraugus Creek. How well do I remember the excitement and the enthusiasm which followed the firing of the first guns of Sumpter. Some of you sons of veterans here this morning remember also. You remember the burning words

of patriotism, the music of liberty; you can see those grand war meetings and hear the bursts of enthusiasm, as young men crowded down through the center aisle, up to the front, and under the starry flag signed their names to the roll. [Applause.] These scenes many of the sons of veterans here today remember. You can remember also how a few days later, when that company was drawn up in line in the public square to be mustered-in, the scenes that followed. Why, everybody was there for twenty miles around. The old fathers and mothers were there, the brothers and sisters and sweethearts were all there, and finally, amid the prayers and the tears and the cheers, that company wheeled into line, and under the starry flag of old glory they marched away to battle and to die for liberty. [Applause.]

And then came four long years of waiting and watching, and hoping and praying, and with what eagerness did they get hold of the daily paper, when the news went flashing over this land that another great battle had been fought; with what eagerness did they run down the long column of dead and wounded, and how their hearts sank when they read the familiar name of some loved one. And finally what joy filled this land when the news came that the rebellion was crushed, that the flag of our country was saved, and that the boys were coming home again. And what a home-coming that was. Why, they all came out again for twenty miles around, everybody, and with open arms to welcome the boys back. And here they came marching up the street, keeping step to the music of the same old drum, and under the folds of the same old flag — no, not the same old flag; a flag now redeemed, a flag now that floats over, and forever will float over a free nation. [Great applause.]

These scenes are familiar to a large number of our older members of the Sons of Veterans. And then there were others who were born when Grant was massing the Union forces around Vicksburg; born amid the thunder and the roar, the shot and the shell, of Gettysburg. Rocked to sleep in the arms of patriotism. The first sounds that broke the stillness of their young lives were the thunderous echoes of the guns of Sumpter, mingled with that grand and mighty chorus,

> "We are coming, Father Abraham,
> Three hundred thousand strong."

[Applause.] They opened their eyes for the first time to see long columns of boys in blue go marching by under the folds of Old Glory, marching on, on to join the bravest army that ever trod the face of earth. [Applause.] They heard the tramp of Sherman's mighty army as it swept, like old ocean's wave, from the river to the sea. They heard the thundering of the guns of Farragut away down in Mobile. They heard the sweet songs of liberty from the lips of half a million loyal mothers. They heard the final shout which went up, proclaiming victory to a nation of States, one and inseparable. [Applause.]

Mr. Commander, it is scenes such as these that has burned the principles of patriotism and loyalty deep into the very souls of the young sons of veterans who went through scenes such as this. [Applause.]

Mr. Mayor, in the name of this grand Order of Sons of Veterans, I again have the pleasure of extending to you and through you to the citizens of this beautiful city, our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the enthusiastic and cordial welcome which you have extended to us here today. [Great applause.]

ENCAMPMENT CALLED TO ORDER.

The Commander-in-Chief: We will proceed with the opening. The officers and members of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment will now come to order. The Adjutant-General will call the roll of officers.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

The Adjutant-General called the roll of officers and the following officers of the Commandery-in-Chief answered to their names: —

Commander-in-Chief, A. W. Jones, Youngstown, O.
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, A L. Sortor, Jr., Mason City, Ia.
Council-in-Chief G. B. Abbott, Chicago, Ill.; W. J. Patton, Wauwatosa, Wis.; George Addington, Albany, N.Y.
Adjutant-General, W. E. Baldwin, Youngstown, O
Quartermaster-General, Fred E. Bolton, Boston, Mass.
Judge Advocate-General, F. T. F. Johnson, Washington, D.C.
Surgeon-General, C. W. Staples, Lyndonville, Vt.
Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. John E Zeiter, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER AND ACTING INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

The Commander-in-Chief: I discover that the Junior Vice-Commander is absent, and I will appoint as temporary Junior Vice-Commander, Commander W. R. Blake of New Hampshire. The Inspector-General is also absent, and in his place I will appoint Brother J. Frank Durston of this city, who will act as Inspector-General during this Encampment.

Inspector-General, you will examine those present to see that they are in possession of our semi-annual password and countersign. The Surgeon-General will assist. Perhaps it is just and proper that I say it this time, that we shall immediately go into secret session, and any one not entitled to remain will now have an opportunity to withdraw. If there are any old soldiers and members of the Grand Army, any that served in the army or in the marine service during the war, they are entitled to remain.

The Inspector-General: Commander-in-Chief, on due inspection, I find all present entitled to remain.

Whereupon the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., was opened in due form.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Commander-in-Chief: We will proceed to the regular order of business. The first thing in order is the appointment of a Committee on Credentials, and this will be the committee: —

Adjutant-General W E. Baldwin of Ohio, *Chairman.*
Past Commander A. T. Wilson of Iowa.
Past Commander Frank Martin of Indiana.
Past Commander H. H. Hammer of Pennsylvania.
Past Commander Arthur B. Spink of Rhode Island.

The members of the committee will proceed to their work.

By general consent a recess of a few minutes was taken to allow the Committee on Credentials time in which to prepare their report.

11 o'clock A.M.

AN HISTORIC GAVEL.

The Commander-in-Chief: I am handed this gavel for use during this Encampment. It was made from the floor of the house belonging to that grandest and greatest of men, Abraham Lincoln, at Springfield, Ill. Accompanying it is the following certificate: —

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., July 30, 1900.

To Whom it may Concern:

This is to certify that this gavel was made from oak flooring taken from Mr Lincoln's old home, corner of 8th and Jackson Sts., this city, during repairs authorized by the Forty-first General Assembly of the Legislature of Illinois.

The walnut is from the stair rail of the Old State House, now the Sangamon County Court House, and the handle is made of lath taken from the old home.

(SIGNED) W. H. DUFFIELD.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of July, A.D. nineteen hundred

In witness whereof I hereunto place my hand and affix the seal of my office.

(SEAL) W. H. MILLER, *N.P.*

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the Committee on Credentials ready to report?

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: At its request, and on behalf of the committee, I present this report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

To the Officers and Members of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.:

We, the undersigned members of the Committee on Credentials, beg leave to submit a preliminary report of the members of the Nineteenth Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Vet-

erans, U.S.A., showing all Divisions entitled to representation, except the Divisions of the Gulf, Oregon and Washington, which have not paid *per capita* tax.

W. E. BALDWIN,
A. T. WILSON,
FRANK MARTIN,
H. H. HAMMER,
ARTHUR B. SPINK,
Credential Committee.

H. H. Hammer of Pennsylvania: For the purpose of saving time and avoiding another roll call, I would suggest, on behalf of the Committee on Credentials, as these names are read let it be considered as a roll call, and all brothers present answer to their names; we can then credit them as being present, and in that way the reading of the report of the committee will serve as the first roll call.

The Commander-in-Chief: Suppose we do that upon the call and understand that as submitting the names.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Adjutant-General will read the names.

(Roll Call No. 1.)

The Commander-in-Chief: You have heard the reading of the report. The question is upon agreeing to the report of the Committee on Credentials.

The Chair put the motion and it was agreed to unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The Commander-in-Chief: The next thing in order will be the appointment of the committees, which are as follows: —

On Ritual.

Past Commander-in-Chief J. L. Rake of Pennsylvania, *Chairman.*
Commander C. M. Rawitzer of Minnesota.
Commander Charles C. Stull of Nebraska.
Delegate William L. Barnum of California.
Commander J. W. T. Ames of Wisconsin.

On Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

Judge Advocate-General F. T. F. Johnson of Maryland, *Chairman.*
Past Commander George W. Pollitt of New Jersey.
Commander Wm. E. Hull of Illinois.
Past Commander Z. C. Green of South Dakota.

On Resolutions.

Delegate Frank D. Jackson of Iowa, *Chairman.*
Past Commander James B Adams of New Jersey.
Commander Fred E. Warner of Massachusetts.
E. C. Parkinson of New York.
Commander F. E. Munger of Michigan.

On Officers' Reports.

Past Commander-in-Chief Joseph B. Maccabe of Massachusetts, *Chairman.*
Past Commander-in-Chief G. B. Abbott of Illinois.
Past Commander-in-Chief Bartow S. Weeks of New York.
Past Commander-in-Chief William E. Bundy of Ohio.
Past Commander-in-Chief James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania.
Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling of Massachusetts.
Past Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard of Illinois.

Committee on Press.

Past Commander William G. Dustin of Illinois, *Chairman.*
Past Commander Dan S. Gardner of Ohio.
Past Commander T. A. Barton of Rhode Island.

The next in order is the reports of officers.

The Commander-in-Chief: Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Sortor will take the chair.

The Senior Vice-Commander assumed command.

Commander-in-Chief Jones read his report as follows: —

REPORT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

To the Officers and Members of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

Brothers: One year ago, at the Detroit Encampment, you kindly and unanimously elected me as your Chief Officer for the ensuing year, and with a confidence scarcely warranted entrusted me with the discharge of the important duties connected therewith.

With a deep sense of the honor conferred, and the responsibilities assumed, it was with many doubts that I entered upon the discharge of the burdens so generously reposed. Had I then, as now, comprehended the very grave responsibilities, and the many vexatious and perplexing questions to arise, I might well have hesitated at the threshold.

But I am here in this beautiful city of Syracuse, in the Nineteenth Encampment assembled, to make report of my stewardship; and you are to determine the propriety of the work performed. My first duty upon assuming command was the appointment of my Official Staff, a portion of which was my own personal choice, but the major part was upon the recommendation of the brothers of the Order; but with one year's experience it is duty, and not flattery, to say, that in the appointments thus made no mistake occurred; for a more able, effective and patriotic staff could not have been found. To mention one would be an injustice to others. Beside these of my regular staff I have had during the year the wise and conservative counsels of that walking encyclopedia of fraternal knowledge, Gen. George B. Abbott, who has assisted Adjutant-General Baldwin. In addition to these it is but fair that I should say that the Senior and Junior Vice-Commanders have at all times been active in the service of the Order.

But for the kindly co-operation of all these efficient aids, I feel sure that my administration must have resulted in absolute failure. But such as it is I respectfully submit for your consideration.

REPORTS.

The Adjutant-General, Quartermaster-General and other officers will submit their reports, and to which I ask your attention.

COURT-MARTIAL.

But one court-martial has been held during the year, and to my mind this speaks volumes for the loyalty of the membership to the Order.

THE MILITARY COLLEGE.

It affords me great pleasure to call your especial attention to the work and report of the Military College Committee.

This committee has done a great work, and has seemingly imbued every one with its own enthusiasm. From the present outlook the enterprise is an assured success, and I trust it may be, as it will do great good, not only in the upbuilding of the Order, but to the public at large. For it I bespeak your most favorable action.

FINAL SETTLEMENT WITH MRS. A. P. DAVIS.

My predecessor, General Shepard, after much labor and negotiation, effected a contract fair to both parties, with Mrs. A. P. Davis, relative to the turning over to the Quartermaster-General of certain materials and the dies used in the construction of our decorations. This contract, executory in its character, was approved by the Detroit Encampment, and I was directed to carry the contract into execution. In accordance with those instructions the contract has been fully performed, the property and dies turned over to General Bolton, as the property of the Commandery-in-Chief, and it has been fully paid for and the transaction closed.

RECOGNITION BUTTON.

By act of the Detroit Encampment the Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General were constituted a committee to design and supply a new buttonhole decoration for the Order, more expressive and symbolical than those now in use. This legislation was adopted by the Encampment without discussion, and apparently unnoticed by many of the delegates. The committee, after some conferences, came to the conclusion that it was too important a matter upon which to take hasty action. The committee was agreed that there should be but one device in use, and that the device should be more symbolic than any of those in present use. However, it recognized the fact that many thousands of the bronze button were in use throughout the Order, and that it had cheapness and durability as factors in its favor, and the committee hesitated to act. It was therefore agreed that the matter should be again referred to this Encampment, that fuller discussion might be brought out, to the end that a future committee might be able to act more advisedly, and the Quartermaster-

General was requested to present designs, with estimates of the cost of manufacture, for the consideration of this Encampment.

WAR-SERVICE CROSS.

By the action of the Seventeenth Annual Encampment the Commander-in-Chief was authorized to have prepared a medal of honor, to be placed upon the price list of supplies, and furnished by the Divisions to those members of our Order who served in the U.S. army or navy in the late Spanish war. It was believed that such a medal if manufactured from a captured Spanish cannon would greatly enhance its value as a memento or trophy to those entitled to wear it. An effort was made by my predecessor to obtain a cannon from the U.S. Government for this purpose, which effort, although vigorously prosecuted, was not crowned with success. The matter was again passed upon by the last Encampment. Upon assuming command I immediately set about to procure this cannon, which could only be obtained by Act of Congress. We were fortunate in getting our Judge Advocate-General, Brother Johnson of Washington, D.C., interested in securing this trophy. Only one who has endeavored to get a special act passed by Congress can appreciate or understand the persistent work necessary and the many disappointments which beset one in such an undertaking. Brother Johnson encountered all of these, but had the satisfaction of knowing that one of the last acts of the recent session of Congress was the granting of this request, and to him the Order is specially indebted. The cannon was shipped to Quartermaster-General Bolton and a design was adopted, after many conferences, and the cross is now ready for distribution.

By instructions from the last Encampment the manner of supplying this decoration was left to the Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General and the Quartermaster-General. Those who have read Section 7 of General Orders No. 2, will note that we have endeavored to place a safeguard against any one procuring this cross who is not entitled to it. Ample proof of honorable service is required. A certificate signed by the Commander-in-Chief is to be issued with cross. The crosses are drawn from the Quartermaster-General, by either Camps or members, through the Division Headquarters, upon the applicant furnishing satisfactory evidence of honorable service and good standing in the Order, and the payment of one dollar, which latter will just about pay the cost of manufacturing the decoration, providing the certificate and forwarding the same to the recipient. That veterans of the Spanish-American war who shall hereafter become members of our Order may not be overlooked, it is provided that they are also eligible to receive this War-Service Cross.

DECISIONS.

Sixteen decisions have been rendered during the year. In reference to fourteen of them I took the opinion of the Judge Advocate, and I am happy to say that in each instance his opinion coincided with my own, and formed the basis of the decision. These are returned as accompanying documents to the report, for your consideration.

BROTHER MORAN'S CASE.

Another matter, which I have determined after much perplexing consideration, I also report for your approval or rejection.

(Section 7, Article VII., page 61, of General Rules and Regulations.)

In the installation ceremony (p. 47, Ritual), the installing officer declares the officers "legally elected and installed and qualified to enter upon the discharge of their several duties for the term, or until their successors are elected, qualified and installed." And thereupon the Commander is directed to assume command, and he thereupon gives one rap, seating the Encampment.

This installation ceremony, taken in connection with Section 7 of Article VII., of the General Rules and Regulations, which provides that, "the Commander of a Division shall within thirty days of his installation give bond in the sum of $2,000," is a little difficult of comprehension.

It will be noticed that this Section 7 does not specify what the conditions of the bond shall be: whether it is for the faithful discharge of duty, or that he will not whip his wife; but fortunately this trouble has been substantially corrected by the adoption of a form of bond by the Commandery-in-Chief.

The question which I desire to present is the effect of a failure to give bond within the thirty days. Is the giving of bond a necessary qualification, or is it a mere duty, which may be performed or omitted at pleasure, or does the failure to give bond create a vacancy?

It is hardly necessary to talk in parables about this matter, because you will all understand that I am calling attention to my action in the case of Brother Moran of New York, and therefore a plain statement of the case is proper.

Bro. Chas. E. Moran was elected and installed as Division Commander of the Division of New York, on June 28, 1900, and upon such action he assumed command, and appointed his staff. When this action was taken no bond had been given; but on July 30, 1900, thirty-two days subsequent to his installation, a bond in form was presented to me for acceptance. In connection with this it is proper that I suggest that it is provided by the By-Laws of the New York Division, duly approved: that the Commander shall not receive any sum of money until he has given bond which has been duly approved.

Under these circumstances I was "confronted with a condition and not a theory," and one which had to be met and disposed of. By the express terms of the section, Brother Moran was required to give a bond to the Commander-in-Chief, in trust, for approval, within thirty days. Your Rules were my law, and by it I was compelled to act. You will notice that no discretion is vested in any one to give, accept or approve of any bond after the expiration of the thirty days, as the provision is mandatory in its terms. To have attempted to receive the bond officially after the expiration of the limit, was to disregard the positive and mandatory injunction of the law, made to govern my action. Whether or not a bond thus approved in defiance of the law

would be valid or void, is a question doubtful in law, and its decision so uncertain by the courts, that I had no right to take such chances for the New York Division, even had I been willing to forget my own oath and bond, for a faithful performance of duty.

The Constitution, Rules and Regulations are in fact the organic law of the Order, and to which all else must bend, and I feel confident that in the adoption of the installation ceremony there was no intention to repeal or render negatory the fundamental laws.

Under the circumstances I felt compelled to hold that the giving of bond and the approval was a necessary part of the qualification of the officer. As much so as when a civil officer is required to give bond and take an oath of office. Both are requisite, and part of the qualification.

If I took the other view, to wit, that a Division Commander is fully qualified when elected and installed, it leads directly to the result, that it becomes entirely optional with him whether or not he gives any bond. My view is confirmed by the By-Laws of the Division, which prevents his reception of funds, until bond is given; and surely he could not well act without the power to receive dues and revenues.

Holding as I did that the giving of bond was a necessary qualification for the position of Division Commander, the conclusion is plain and easily reached. Col. Ralph Sheldon had, at the previous Encampment, been duly elected, qualified and installed, to serve until his successor was regularly elected, qualified and installed, and that event not having happened, I held that he still remained Division Commander, until the vacancy was filled. By special order I directed him to convene the Division Council for the election of his successor.

The Council met on August 6, and re-elected Brother Moran, who has since given bond which has been approved, and he has regularly entered upon the discharge of his duties.

So far as this particular case is concerned, it is now a question of no moment, but in view of the doubtful construction to be given to this section, when read in connection with the installation ceremony, I trust that either my holding will be approved or another construction given, which will in future be a guide for official action, as the like may often occur.

RITUAL.

It is a lamentable fact that our membership has not increased for many years as it ought to have done. Many remedies have been proposed, but none seem to reach the seat of the disease, and it is possible that the change of treatment which I shall propose may fail to produce convalescence and health, but my experience with the doctors leads me to believe that they are all more or less experimenters, and when catnip tea fails, as a final resort, they all go back to calomel.

The objects of our Order are well known and understood. Chief among these are: *First*, To keep green the memories of the fathers, and their sacrifices for the maintenance of the Union; to aid the G.A.R., and all honorably discharged soldiers and marines, their widows and orphans, and to perpetuate the observance of Memorial

and Union Defenders Day. *Second*, To aid and assist worthy and needy members of our own Order; and *Third*, To inculcate patriotism and love of country among all people of our land, and to sustain the doctrine of equal rights, universal liberty and justice to all.

Certainly no more worthy objects could be named, and, from somewhat extended acquaintance with members of the Order, I am ready to affirm that these objects are uppermost in the minds and hearts of all our brethren; and each and all are desirous of making these desires universal.

The great question is how shall these general objects be accomplished? If every eligible son of a patriot father was a member of our Order, and schooled in its principles, it would greatly widen our influence, and thus increase our power. To do this, many means have already been used, with more or less effect, and I have another to suggest, and if it meets with your approval I would gladly see it adopted and tried.

As I have already said, no association has higher or grander principles than ours; none more patriotic or loyal, and none more worthy to become universal, and no brotherhood more firmly believes in them. But I have sometimes thought that our predecessors, in the preparation of our ritual, have forgotten that we are boys, and while intensely loyal and patriotic, still, in the language of the inspired penman, we "cannot live by bread alone." We want something that will make our meetings more attractive; something that will increase the inducement of our membership to rally round and hunt up their eligible friends and bring them into the Camp, and the practical question is, how and by what means are these results to be worked out? Many of us are, in the language of the street, "jiners," and belong to many different societies, and by practical experience we know that those which have the most amusement in them are most successful in numbers. With something of this kind in view, I have this year appointed a very able committee upon ritual, and one with wide experience, fully competent to deal with this question, and to them and to you I suggest the propriety of adding some features in the line suggested. Not that I would abate one jot or tittle from our present grand principles or objects, but solely for the purpose of more effectually and universally disseminating them.

I have no suggestions to make in reference to what this addition should be, or how it should be carried out, but submit all to the discretion of the members of the committee, knowing that with their wide experience, intimate knowledge and love of the Order, its principles and objects, that their determination will be right.

CONSTITUTION, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

One year's experience has taught me that the framers of the C., R. & R. did a great work, and with wonderful forethought for the future, and are therein entitled to the sincere thanks of all for their labors; but, like all else human, some slight errors, or omissions, are found in its use. There are a few matters connected with this to which I direct the attention of the committee and the Encampment.

Section 1 of Article I. of the Division Constitution provides, that when five Camps exist in any State or Territory, the same may be organized as a Division, and whenever less than five Camps exist they may be attached by the Commander-in-Chief to some organized Division.

The word "may" in the last provision I construe to mean "must" or "shall," or at least it has that effect, because there is no other provision for such a condition.

So far as I can learn this has never worked satisfactorily, because the Provisional Division is attached to a headquarters far away, and with whom they are unacquainted.

In my judgment, if in such case the Commander-in-Chief had some discretion, and was authorized either to attach or appoint a Provisional Commander, who was interested in the Division and acquainted with its members, I think, from some experience which I have had in the last year, it would be much better for the Order.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

This association, formed by our fathers and their comrades, is one in which we have a deep and abiding interest. Its history is part of our family record, and sacred to us. But those who were "boys" a third of a century ago have become men; many have passed beyond the allotted "three score and ten," many have passed to the great unknown, and within a few short years the last of these grand and loyal men will bivouac upon the other shore.

In our veins runs the blood of these men, and if their Order is perpetuated, their record and history preserved and transmitted to succeeding generations, it must be by and through us. Should we fail to attempt this duty it would bring the blush of shame to our own posterity, and I fear they would rise up and condemn us. Every consideration of love, consanguinity and honor, demand that we make the effort to perpetuate that Order, and to preserve and transmit to future generations a knowledge of the sacrifices and hazards endured by our fathers that they might transmit to posterity, undivided, this great and free republic.

Believing that I truly represented the unanimous sentiment of our Order, early in my term I addressed to General Shaw, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, a letter, suggesting that as we were the male descendants of the great Order which he represented, we had an interest in its history and welfare, and that in a manner honorable alike to both, it was hoped that closer relations might be brought about between the two organizations.

No basis, or plan of closer relations, was suggested in my letter, for the reason that it was thought that largely such matters should come from the G.A.R , or at least be the subject of future negotiations. In a kind and fatherly way General Shaw answered my letter, informing me that his Council of Administration would meet in Chicago on Dec. 6, 1899, and inviting the presence of a committee of our Order to appear there and present that matter to them. Calling to my aid Past Commanders-in-Chief Sheppard, Bundy and Abbott and Past Colonels Dustin and Church, we appeared before the council and were kindly

received, and an hour was spent in interchange of views. The result of this was a reference of the matter to a special committee, of which Bro. W. H. Armstrong was chairman, to make a report, and at the last Encampment of the G.A.R., held in Chicago on August 28, 29 and 30, the committee reported, recommending closer relations with our Order.

In the general report of Commander-in-Chief Shaw, he made the following kindly mention and report respecting it, to wit: —

" The nearest approach to privileged sons of our soil is found in the Sons of Veterans. To be the worthy son of a worthy veteran of the Union army is indeed a proud distinction, and the deep and abiding interest which stirs the heart of every veteran in behalf of the Sons of Veterans is evidence of regard and affection of a commanding character. As to how the Grand Army can best aid in the development and strength of this organization is a perplexing question. Naturally so long as the Grand Army exists, it will hold first place in the hearts of our countrymen. The Sons of Veterans, with all their claims to public regard, will have to occupy a secondary position until the veterans of the 60's have passed away. The recommendation of the committee appointed by the Department of Massachusetts to consider the question of what the Grand Army could do to favor the Sons of Veterans, is a well thought out review of the situation, and has the full concurrence of your Commander-in-Chief. A special report of this subject will be made by Comrade W. H. Armstrong, chairman of a committee appointed on Dec. 6, 1899, at Chicago, at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of Administration. At that time Commander-in-Chief Jones, of the Sons of Veterans, appeared before this Executive Committee, in company with two other members of his Order, and a full conference was held, resulting in the appointment of the above committee to consider and report upon the questions at issue. The whole matter is submitted for action of this Encampment with the assurance that the subject is one very near the hearts of our comrades, and that all the encouragement possible at our hands is due to ' our boys.' A copy of the report to the Department of Massachusetts accompanies my annual report. Your Commander-in-Chief suggests the appointment of a strong committee by this Encampment to specially consider this important matter and report to the next national meeting of our Order."

In company with the committee before appointed, with the addition of Senior Vice-Commander Sortor, Past Surgeon-in-Chief McDowell, and Colonels Courtney and Hull, I attended the National Encampment, in the hope of securing a favorable response to our request. We were agreeably surprised to learn that not only were the reports both agreed to, but both were agreed to unanimously.

In pursuance of the recommendation of Commander-in-Chief Shaw, a committee of three was appointed to confer with a like committee from this body, regarding future and closer relationship, and I therefore recommend to this Encampment the appointment of a like committee of conference. And permit me now to express the hope that these two committees shall be able to agree upon a plan of close fraternal relations, honorable alike to the G.A.R. and S. of V., and that

they will report the same for adoption to the next National Encampment. To my successor I transmit the final solution and negotiations for the carrying out of this important action on the part of our fraternity.

Copies of the correspondence with reference to this matter are filed with the report.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

I am pleased to note the lively interest this noble band of loyal women is now taking in our welfare. We have received many marks of courtesy from them during the past year, and they also have taken a lively and practical interest in encouraging us in the establishment of our college and the organization of Camps.

THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

Our Auxiliary, the Ladies' Aid Society, has been as devoted to our interest during the past year as a loving sister. The Camps appealing to the Aids for assistance have not appealed in vain, and the idea of our Military College has aroused quite as much enthusiasm with our girls as it has with our members.

Let us encourage these earnest sisters of ours in every way we can, believing they will ever respond to the calls we may make upon them in furthering our work.

OUR OFFICIAL ORGAN.

"The Banner" has been subscribed for by several Divisions for the benefit of their members, and the results apparently have justified the expenditure, for renewed life and gain in membership is noted in every Division which has adopted this plan of awakening an interest among the members. An Order of our size surely requires the benefits of a newspaper devoted to its interests.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

Vast duties and responsibilities are upon the members of this Order, and they are increasing as the years roll by. There was a time when the veterans of the Civil War, a million strong and fresh from the fields of their triumphs, had little need of assistance, either personally or politically. They had the influence and power to sway Congress and the nation. Their desires became law, and their will a rule of action; but one by one, in quick succession, for more than a third of a century, they have been bivouacking on the other shore; the lines are badly broken, and of those that are left many have reached beyond the allotted span, and many are enfeebled by disease, comparatively few remaining who have the strength to fight life's battles unaided.

Already it has been substantially determined that the Grand Army of the Republic will never again undertake to make another public parade. Chicago is probably its last. Soon their political, like their physical power, will become so enfeebled that the mere politician will have little respect for them or their demands. As their power wanes, so your duties and responsibilities grow, and become imperative. You stood by the altar and registered an oath of fealty to the memory of a loyal and patriotic father and his comrades; you promised you would, to the extent of your ability, keep green his and their memory, and that you, by all honorable means in your power, would aid, defend

and protect them. If you violate that oath, or fail to perform to the full measure of your ability, you are unworthy to be called the son of a noble sire.

If any one of that band of patriotic men, who saved this country from disunion and treason, is permitted to know the pangs of hunger, or the want of the necessaries of life; or if one in his declining years should be compelled to seek shelter in an almshouse, this nation and every member of this Order will be disgraced.

Not only would I ask you to aid them in the ways I have suggested, but in every other which will make their declining years happy and comfortable. They are now asking us to assist them on Memorial Day; to strew the beautiful flowers of spring over the last resting places of their fallen comrades, and I am sure that you, with them, on each annual return of May 30, will repair to "the spot to memory dear" and place the offering emblematic of the love and gratitude of a grateful people.

In the last National Encampment of the G.A.R., as I have before stated, they took action, inviting closer relations with us, and I am sure you will accept the request as the command of a respected father to a dutiful son.

I should be unfaithful to duty did I not call attention to the grand manner in which our brethren of Chicago and vicinity discharged their obligations to the old soldiers at the recent National Encampment of the G.A.R. Long before the Encampment met they were busy gathering information, but during the time the old veterans were there they were their friends indeed. They manned the bureau of information; they were the guides and helpers, and no service was too arduous in the discharge of their duties. They distributed casks of ice water along the line of march, and kept them supplied; and, in addition to all this, and more, they gave to the old soldiers and their families more than twenty-one thousand meals. Literally they covered themselves with a mantle of glory, love and loyalty.

In conclusion, I desire to return my sincere thanks to every member of my staff, and to every officer who has been associated with me during the last year, for the uniform efficiency and kindness with which they have discharged their often perplexing duties; and to every member of the Order, for the honor conferred upon me in selecting me as your Chief.

But especially do I wish to acknowledge the uniform courtesy and kindness which has been extended to me by each and all during my term, and at the close of this meeting, when I shall have received all the honors of office in your power to bestow, I wish to assure you that I shall not forget, or prove unfaithful to the obligations assumed; but, with you shall go forward to grander results and higher attainments in our Order.

At least, I will not forget my promise to a dying father, who for the last time took my hand in his and said, "My son, when I am gone do not forget to be good and kind to my comrades."

Respectfully submitted,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

The reading of the Commander-in-Chief's report was greeted with great applause and prolonged cheering.

The Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief: Brothers of the Commandery-in-Chief, we have heard the report of our Commander-in-Chief, which under the rule will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

The Commander-in-Chief assumed command.

RECESS UNTIL 2 O'CLOCK P.M.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Commander, I think we ought to take a recess. I move a recess until 2 o'clock sharp.

The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF SHAW—JONES.

Col. A. D. Shaw, Youngstown, O., Oct. 24, 1899.
Commander-in-Chief, G.A.R.,
Watertown, N.Y.

Dear Sir: Having recently been elected Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, I am naturally anxious to do what I can for its advancement I know you must be a busy man and I hesitate in asking for even a very little of your time, but I would feel derelict in performing my duty if I did not at least ask your advice.

In discussing the subject it is not my purpose that the views we may express shall be for publication, and I will give you my candid ideas and beg the same candor on your part.

Our organization has been in existence for nearly twenty years. Ten years ago we had an actual membership of over fifty thousand, while now it is less than thirty thousand. We have changed our constitution, we have changed our ritual; we have sought to make the Order very military, and we are now making it civic. In 1889 we received the official endorsement and benediction of the G.A.R. at Milwaukee. Since then platonic and formal expressions of regard and goodwill have been exchanged between the two Orders. With a few — a very few — exceptions your Departments are friendly to the Sons of Veterans.

We have long since ceased to be an organization of boys. We number among our members three United States senators, many congressmen, judges and prominent men of affairs Thousands of our members served in the Spanish war or are now serving in the Philippines.

The doors of our Camp-room are ever open to comrades of the G A.R. Our Order is founded upon pure sentiment, the most unselfish sentiment which ever actuated the human heart — that of devotion and honor to the "old soldiers." And yet our Order cannot be said to be prosperous. It is only by the exercise of the greatest energy on the part of its officers, that we have kept from falling further behind than we are Is it possible that we are laboring in a useless cause? Is it possible that there is no reason for our existence? Should we shut up shop and quit? Unless there is a change, the latter fate must eventually be ours. Cold charity and patriotism seem to lack in attractiveness for our boys. Not like the comrades of the G.A.R., we have no comradeship, the outgrowth of battle and field service to draw us together, nor the desire or incentive for the strength of union for the maintenance of just pensions, although the day must come when such help as we could give for the latter cause would not be despised by the few remaining when the strength of their numbers will not command the respectful attention which it does.

Not with a spirit of complaint, but with the idea of challenging your attention and the hope of drawing from you a valuable suggestion, do I say that we feel that we have never received from the G.A.R. such practical (and

I eliminate financial) support, loyal and enthusiastic encouragement that we feel we deserve.

I cannot but feel that the relations between the two Orders should be closer. But our boys have all the sense of pride and independence which comes to them so honestly from their sires. They feel that all overtures for a nearer fraternity should come from the G.A.R. Personally, I think this a mistake. There is no time within the last few years that our Commandery-in-Chief would not have gladly received an invitation to have met in Convention at the same time and in the same city with your National body, but I think the boys would die before they would ask for an invitation of this kind. It strikes me that if our boys were permitted to visit the Posts on the same basis that the comrades visit our Camps, it would greatly encourage them. Possibly this would not prove practical after further discussion Certain it is that much of the personal history of those who fought the battles in the ranks would thus be preserved to posterity, which otherwise will surely be lost. Such precepts in loyalty, devotion and bravery could not be planted in more fertile soil nor told to more eager listeners. This could have but one inevitable result, in the course of time. Either the Sons of Veterans would become merged in the G.A.R. and it would thus be perpetuated by the sons, or our Order would assume all the duties and responsibilities of the G A.R. when the latter became thin and numerically weak, too weak to provide for itself. And really is there any sound objection to the perpetuity of the G.A.R ? Rest assured that those who have all these years revered their dead comrades and remembered their graves on Memorial Day, will see to it that *their* graves will not be forgotten after *they*, the last remaining few, are laid to rest. And, indeed, if through a proper jealousy of their honors and deeds, the G A R. refuses to provide for its perpetuity, it cannot prevent, after it ceases to exist, others from usurping its honored name, and it would be far better that with its knowledge, consent and blessing that the sons of the members, their legitimate successors, should be granted this special honor. I know that it has been thought by some few, that the Sons of Veterans might arrogate to themselves some of the honors and glory justly and solely their fathers', but nothing could be further from the truth They are proud, eminently proud of their ancestry, and the veteran soldier, himself, cannot be more jealous of his honors than are our boys of what are due him.

This subject is a serious one to me and I trust I can make it equally so to you. Above all things, I wish you could see your way clear to take up the matter forcibly, urgently, and to some length in your coming communications to the Departments and Posts. I believe if you were disposed to take up the subject with them seriously, with a clear statement of your reasons for so doing, an infinite benefit would come to us, which in time would be returned to your organization. At any rate, I would greatly value your ideas, opinion and advice, and as I have endeavored to present our case honestly, earnestly and candidly, I believe you will reply in the same spirit.

To show you that in our small way we are trying to carry out our principles, I may add that last year we expended $14,970.06 in charity, relieving 579 veterans or their families.

Assuring you of my most fraternal regard,

I remain yours in F., C. and L.,

(SIGNED) A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
OFFICE OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.
WATERTOWN, N.Y., Oct. 26, 1899.

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief Sons of Veterans,
Youngstown, O.

My Dear Sir: Yours of the 24th has been received. I reply thus promptly to inform you that your letter deeply interested me, and, being almost overwhelmed with many urgent matters demanding immediate attention, I cannot send you a full response to your almost pathetic communication until a later

date. I will carefully take up your letter with my Council of Administration, which meets in Chicago on December 6, prox, and see what can be prudently and wisely formulated along the line of your inquiries and suggestions. I agree with you that the subject is a very important one and because of this the matter deserves the best possible consideration. I will have your letter copied by my typewriter and sent to each of the members of the Executive Committee of the Council of Administration, with the following letter from me: —

"*Dear Comrade:* I enclose you a copy of a letter I have just received from A. W. Jones, Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, and I request you to give it special consideration to the end that you make a written report to submit to the next meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of Administration, covering your views and conclusions regarding this important communication in question. I am deeply impressed with the earnest appeal of the Commander-in-Chief, and lay the same before you for such careful consideration and recommendations as your experience, ability and wide knowledge of Grand Army interests, as well as the present conditions surrounding the Sons of Veterans, eminently qualify you to submit for the information of all concerned."

If you could arrange to meet us in Chicago on the date given, it might be wise and useful: and in taking this course I am following out a line of action I trust you will believe to be in keeping with the requirements of the situation, as set forth in your able and frank letter. Assuring you of my full sympathy in the environments surrounding your service as the head of the Sons of Veterans, I am, in all best wishes, and in F., C. and L.,

Yours faithfully,

ALBERT D. SHAW,
Commander-in-Chief, G.A.R.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
OFFICE OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
WATERTOWN, N.Y., Nov. 25, 1899.

G. B. ABBOTT,
Adjutant-General, Sons of Veterans,
Youngstown, O.

My Dear Sir: Yours of November 23d is at hand The meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Administration of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held at the Palmer House, Chicago, December 6 at 10 A M. We would be very glad to see Governor Jones, as matters of interest to him will be brought before the meeting. The meeting will be in session during the day, so that any hour will be satisfactory.

Trusting that it may be so that he can come, I am, in F., C. and L.,

Yours faithfully,

ALBERT D. SHAW,
Commander-in-Chief, G.A.R.

DECISIONS AND OPINIONS.

Official Decision No. 1.

Rendered to Col. S. S. Horn, Commanding Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., Oct. 2, 1899.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Oct. 2, 1899.

In the matter of the question which you raise, regarding the legality of an honorable discharge, which was issued in a Camp in your Division, the discharge being asked for and voted to be granted in open Camp, instead of being asked for in writing, and that a year or more transpired without any question being raised, or without the brother to whom the honorable discharge was granted taking any exceptions to the manner of its being granted, and

conducting himself as though he considered himself, during that time, not a member of the Camp; I hold and decide as follows: —

Unless limited by Constitutional provision, any society having power to receive members has the implied power of discharging them, therefore, the question logically follows, does Section 3 of Article IV. of the Camp Constitution prohibit the exercise of discretion to grant a discharge based upon a verbal request? It is true that the section quoted is mandatory in its provisions, but it is only mandatory in this, that the member *shall* receive a discharge at the next stated meeting after having made *written* request for it; there is no prohibition against the use of discretionary power to grant a discharge based upon a verbal request, therefore, I hold and decide that when a member makes a verbal request for his discharge, and the request is granted, the discharge issued, and received by the member, that such discharge is valid and legal.

A. W JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Official Decision No. II.

Rendered to Col. S. S. Horn, Commanding Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O , Jan. 9, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion I. of the Judge Advocate-General on the questions raised in your letter of Dec. 31, 1899.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and adopt it as my decision.

Fraternally yours, A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion I.

RELIEF COMMITTEE. The Relief Committee of a Camp cannot impress the services of an unwilling member.

FINES. A member appointed by the Relief Committee against his wishes, who fails to perform the duties directed by said committee cannot be fined for such dereliction.

MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING. Any member is in good standing provided he be in arrears for less than six months, and can vote on all questions before a Camp.

ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE. Any member in good standing who is duly elected to any office in the Camp may be installed as such officer.

BY-LAWS. Camp and Division By-Laws cannot in any way abridge the rights of members accorded under the C., R. & R.

Com. S. S. Horn of the Pennsylvania Division submits the following for an opinion: —

"Ext. — The Relief Committee shall appoint two brothers when necessary to attend sick brothers, who shall render necessary assistance. Said brothers shall be appointed as their names appear alphabetically on the roll of the Camp. Any brother failing or refusing to comply with this law, shall be fined one dollar."

The membership of the Relief Committee of a Camp as well as their duties are prescribed by Article XI. of the C., R. & R.

A Relief Committee has no power to delegate its duties so long as one member thereof is able to perform them. When all members become incapaci-

tated for the particular duty, the committee itself may appoint a substitute or substitutes, but such substitutes must be willing to perform the duties and must accept such appointment Any by-law or order having the object in view to compel a member to accept such appointment by the Relief Committee is contrary to the C., R. & R., and therefore null and void. A member refusing to serve as such substitute cannot be fined, either by the Camp or the committee

"Ext. — No elective officer shall be installed unless he is square on the books of the Camp, and no brother shall be eligible to any office who shall be over thirteen weeks in arrears for dues."

Any member is in good standing until he is six months in arrears for dues or fines; and as, under the Constitution, a member in good standing is entitled to hold any office in the Order, I am of the opinion that a Camp or Division has no legal right to make order or by-law declaring that a member who is in arrears for a less time than is provided by the C , R. & R is ineligible for office.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 28, 1899.

Official Decision No. III.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Jan. 9, 1900.

Rendered to Col. Edson S. Bishop, Commanding the Division of Connecticut, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

I herewith hand you Opinion II. of the Judge Advocate-General on the questions raised by Upham Camp No. 7 of your Division.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and adopt it as my decision.

Yours fraternally,
A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion II.

A sitting captain of a Camp cannot hold a commission on the staff of a Division Commander.

An officer cannot hold the commission of a captain and at the same time hold the commission as a lieutenant.

A Division Commander may detail any officer or past officer in his division for any service connected therewith.

Col. E. S. Bishop of the Connecticut Division submits the following for an opinion: —

"Pursuant to a vote of this Camp taken Dec. 2, 1899, we desire to enter a protest against Captain W. C. DeF. Dickinson holding a commission as Inspecting Officer of this Division and at the same time the commission as Captain of Camp 1, Connecticut Division (see Decision III. Commander-in-Chief Chas. K. Darling). We also protest against the inspection of this Camp by Captain Dickinson under commission as lieutenant, same being contrary to decision already referred to"

It has been frequently decided that a person cannot hold two elective commissioned offices at one and the same time, and I can see no reason why, by analogy, the same should not extend to an elective and an appointive office, or to two appointive offices, the principle being the same in each. In the United States Army it frequently happens that an officer is detached from the command of his company and assigned a duty upon the staff of some regimental or general officer; but when such assignment is made such officer entirely severs his connection with his company command and has nothing further to do with it until assigned thereto. When he is relieved of the command of his company and is assigned to staff duty he invariably retains the rank that he had while connected

with his company, and I can find no case wherein an officer has been assigned to staff duty and at the same time retains command of his company. These two things seem to be incompatible with one another. In the case at issue we have the captain of a Camp being assigned to staff duty and an additional commission as a lieutenant on such staff is given him while he at the same time retains command of his Camp. This, in my opinion, is unlawful and cannot be done. It is true that an officer of the regular army can be an officer of the volunteer army with a higher rank; but it is to be understood that these armies are separate and distinct things, and so regarded by the law and also by the authorities of the War Department; and this fact will serve to remove any confusion that might arise from an officer holding a commission in the regular army and also a commission in the volunteer army. As the duty of the inspecting officer of a Division is not in accord with that of a Camp captain, and as there is a likelihood that their duties would conflict, I am of the opinion that a sitting elective commissioned officer cannot be commissioned a staff officer upon the staff of his commander at the same time that he is holding a commissioned office by election.

Under Section 5, Article IV., Chapter III. of the C., R. & R., a Division Commander has power to appoint any officer or past officer of his Division, to perform any service connected with the business thereof. He can, therefore, detail a sitting Camp Captain or any officer thereof to inspect any Camp as he may see fit, the delegation of such officer being merely a detail and carries no commission with it, and does not, therefore, conflict with the decisions in regard to commission

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 4, 1900.

Official Decision No. IV.

In the matter of the appeal of W. L. Gillespie of Camp 25, from Special Order No. 1, of Col. Ralph Sheldon, Commanding the Division of New York, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O , Jan. 29, 1900.

Without considering the irregular manner in which Gillespie presents his appeal I must and do sustain the action of Colonel Sheldon, as defined in his Special Order No. 1, for the reason that Camp No. 25 and Brother Gillespie failed to show that Capt. W. H. Riley had been legally deprived of his office as the lawful Captain commanding said Camp No. 25. To be more explicit I will review the case briefly.

For alleged misconduct Camp No. 25 saw fit to vote a fine of $3 00 upon Captain Riley, on Sept. 18, 1899. But it does not appear that by any by-law approved by the Division Commander, and in operation at that time, or by any other lawful process, did this Camp have the power to fine Captain Riley. True the members of the Camp Council state that the Camp had By-Laws, which had been destroyed, but it does not state what these By-Laws were, or that they had ever been approved by a Division commander. The Constitution provides, Section 1, Article X., Chapter II., that Camps shall have power to provide by-laws imposing fines *for neglect of duty*, etc. The alleged offence for which Capt. Riley was fined was not neglect of duty. For the non-payment of the fine levied Sept. 18, 1899, Captain Riley was suspended some time previous to Oct. 23, 1899. Now it is clearly the law, substantiated by approved decisions, that no member can be suspended for the non-payment of either dues or fines until he is at least six months in arrears for the same; and even had the fine of Captain Riley been legal he could not have been lawfully suspended until at least six months after the 18th of Sept., 1899.

For the foregoing reasons I decide, and so rule, that Special Order No. 1 of Commander Sheldon, is legal in every particular, and should stand.

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Official Decision No. V.

Rendered to Col. S. S. Horn, Commanding Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Jan. 19, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion III., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, on the question raised by your Judge Advocate in regard to the By-Laws of a Camp providing for the election of members of the Camp Council to serve one, two or three years.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and adopt it as my decision.

Yours fraternally, A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion III.

Members of the Camp Council must be elected annually for a term of one year.

A By-Law of a Camp which provides for the election of members of a Camp Council for terms of one, two and three years respectively is contrary to the C., R. & R., and invalid.

You submit for an opinion the following from Division Commander S. S. Horn of Pennsylvania, being a communication from Camp 182, of that Division, and being a proposed By-Law for that Camp.

"At the election, to be held in December, 1900, one member of Camp Council shall be elected to serve three (3) years, one member for two (2) years and one member for one (1) year. Thereafter only one member to be elected each year."

By reference to Chapter II., Article VII., Section 1, of the C., R. & R , I find that the " Camp Council, consisting of three members, shall be elected at the first stated meeting in December." The meaning of this section is plainly that the election of all three members shall be held at such stated meeting, or the next succeeding one, just as the other elective officers of the Camp are elected and for the same term. The Constitution determines the length of the term of every elective officer in the Order, and it is not within the power of any Camp or Division to diminish or enlarge such term, without some authority from the Commandery-in-Chief. As there is no authority in the C., R. & R., that would warrant such change of term, and as I know of no action of the Commandery-in-Chief authorizing it, I am of the opinion that a By-Law changing such term or terms would be contrary to the C., R. & R., and I would, therefore, advise that it be not approved.

The end sought by proposed By-Law can, doubtless, be attained by a By-Law properly drawn that would not conflict with the provisions of the C., R. & R , and decisions on the subject, but as such a one is not before me I cannot pass an opinion.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 23, 1900. *Judge Advocate-General.*

Official Decision No. VI.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Feb. 17, 1900.

I fully concur in the Opinion IV., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, on the power of the Commander-in-Chief to discipline a negligent Division Commander, and adopt the same as my decision.

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion IV.

A Division Commander who fails to enforce the By-Laws of his Division, or who fails to comply with or wilfully violates them is liable to Court-Martial.

The Commander-in-Chief has original jurisdiction to convene a court-martial for the trial of a Division Commander.

My opinion is asked on the following: —

"The Commander-in-Chief would like your opinion upon a question involved as follows: —

Division By-Laws are adopted by Divisions, and become effective on the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, and a copy is required to be kept on file in the office of the Adjutant-General.

It comes to the notice of the Commander-in-Chief, that a Division Commander has either failed to enforce or comply with or may have violated legally adopted and approved By-Laws of his Division. What is the duty or power of the Commander-in-Chief, in the premises, if any? If the Commander-in-Chief does not act, who shall?"

A Division Commander is at all times under the command of the Commander-in-Chief and directly responsible to him for the enforcement of all laws, rules and orders, and is directly answerable to him for any failure to enforce them or for any wilful violation thereof. If there have been charges preferred against a Division Commander to the Commander-in-Chief, it is his duty, if the charge, in his opinion, is of sufficient weight, to convene a court-martial for the trial of such charges. The second paragraph of Section 1, Article VI.. Chapter V., of the C., R. & R., provides that — "Second: Disobedience of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, or other lawful orders of the Sons of Veterans coming from proper authority" shall be the subject of a court-martial. A Division officer who fails to enforce or who wilfully violates any of the laws of the Order, By-Laws, Orders or directions emanating from proper authority is subject to court-martial.

If, in the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief, the charges preferred against a Division Commander are supported by evidence sufficient to make a prima facie case, it is his duty to convene a court-martial for the trial of such charges.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Official Decision No. VII.

Rendered to Col. Edson S. Bishop, Commanding Division of Connecticut, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Feb. 17, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion V., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, on the question of an eligible person being mustered into the Sons of Veterans by proxy.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General and adopt it as my decision. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion V.

A person eligible to the Order, resident in a foreign country, may be mustered into the Order by a member of the G.A.R., duly delegated for that purpose, if the circumstances be such that it is impossible for the recruit to present himself to the Camp for muster.

Col. E. S. Bishop, of the Connecticut Division, asks whether one Alexander Henderson, Jr., a resident of Fredrichsted, Danish West Indies, who claims

to be a son of one Alexander Henderson, Sr., a member of Admiral Foote Post, No. 17, G.A.R., New Haven, Conn., can be mustered as a recruit into Nathan Hale Camp No. 1, of the Connecticut Division, by some member of the G.A.R., resident in Fredrichsted.

After carefully considering this matter I am of the opinion that it would be perfectly proper to take a member, resident in a foreign country, into the Order in this way providing that his identity and eligibility are perfectly proved, and that the requirements of the C., R. & R. are complied with. If Alexander Henderson, Sr , who claims to be the father of Alexander Henderson, Jr., of Fredrichsted, Danish West Indies, is a member of G.A.R. Post, New Haven, Conn., and proof to that effect is furnished the Division Commander, and further that the identity of the said Alexander Henderson, Jr., as the son of the said Alexander Henderson, Sr., is established beyond a doubt, and that he is a reputable person, the Commander-in-Chief may issue a dispensation permitting the Division Commander to appoint some member of the G.A.R. to muster and obligate said Alexander Henderson, Jr., into the Order of the Sons of Veterans, and make proper return thereof.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 13, 1900.

Official Decision No. VIII.

Rendered to Col. S. S. Horn, Commanding the Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., March 22, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion VI., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, on the power of a Division Commander to fix the definite day and hour for convening the Annual Encampment and Division Council.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General and adopt it as my decision. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion VI.

1. Under the By-Laws of the Pennsylvania Division it is the duty of the Division Commander, and his exclusive right, to name the day and date of the Encampment and the hour of meeting.

2. The Division Council must meet at the place of the Annual Encampment of the Division and prior thereto, for the performance of the duties of its office, the day and time for calling such meeting being by general custom vested in the Commander.

3. In the event of the failure of the Division Council to meet on the call of the Division Commander at the place of the Annual Encampment of the Division and prior to the meeting thereof, as provided for in Chapter III., Article V., Section 7, of the C., R. & R., the Commander of the Division should appoint a special committee of not less than three or more than five members of the Encampment to examine the books, etc., and after the opening of the Encampment make report thereof to the Encampment.

I have been requested to pass upon the following from the Division of Pennsylvania: —

Commander S. S. Horn asks the following: (1.) "Who names the day, date and hour of the Encampment?" (2.) "Is the notification by myself as Commander, to the Division Council, of a special day and hour, to meet previous to the Division Encampment convening, within my province, and legal? " (3.) "Should the Council ignore or disobey such an order from me, what course can I or will I pursue? Can I appoint an auditing committee, and what authority have I over them in any such event arising? That is, what authority have I over the Council in such a position? "

Article I., Section 1, of the duly adopted and approved By-Laws of the Division of Pennsylvania, refers to the meeting of the Division Encampment and provides: . . . . . "the exact day to be designated by the Colonel," and Section 3 of the same Article provides: "The hour of opening said Encampment shall be fixed by the Colonel commanding." I am of the opinion that under the By-Laws of the Pennsylvania Division the Commander thereof has the exclusive authority to name the day and hour of meeting of the Division Encampment.

Chapter III., Article V., Section 7, of the C., R. & R., makes it mandatory on the Division Council to meet once a year, "the same to be prior to and at the same place as that of the stated yearly meetings of the Division Encampment." It is and has been for a number of years past the custom with the Commander-in-Chief, and through the several Divisions of the Order, which has become the universal law, to call together the Council just before the meeting of the Encampment, for the purpose of examining books, etc. There appears to be nothing in the C., R. & R. to conflict with this custom, and I am, therefore, of the opinion that the Commander has authority and is acting within his province to set the day for the meeting of the Division Council.

As under the C., R. & R., Chapter III , Article V., Section 7, it is mandatory for the Division Council to meet prior to the opening of the Encampment, if for any reason the Council does not meet, the Division Commander should exercise the authority given him under Chapter III , Article VI., Section 1, and appoint a special committee of not less than three or more than five members for the purpose of performing the duties of the Division Council. After the opening of the Encampment he should report the failure of the Division Council to hold a meeting, as required by law, and the appointment by himself of a special committee to perform their duties, and let the Encampment take such action as it may deem proper in the premises.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 20, 1900.

Official Decision No. IX.

Rendered to Col. Harry T. Moore, Commanding the Division of California, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., April 9, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion VII., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, on the question of the eligibility to membership in the Sons of Veterans of a son of one who was engaged in guerilla warfare against the United States.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and adopt it as my decision. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion VII.

The son of one engaged in guerilla warfare against the United States is ineligible to membership in the Order.

I have been requested to investigate and report upon the following decision of the Judge Advocate of the Division of California.

HARRY T. MOORE,
Division Commander, S. V., U.S.A.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11, 1900.

Dear Sir and Bro.: I am requested to give an official opinion on the following: —

Is the grandson of a soldier of the war of 1861–1865 eligible to membership, whose father was during said war engaged in guerilla warfare?

Section 1, Article II., C., R & R., provides that no person shall be eligible who or whose father has ever borne arms against the Government of the United States.

The question, it would seem, is reduced to the following proposition, to wit: Does one who engages in guerilla warfare bear arms against the United States?

Guerilla or guerilla warfare, as we understand that term, is that special petty warfare carried on by a self constituted band of armed men, who form no part of an organized army, who take up arms, and lay them down at will and in some locations respect no flag and are recognized by neither army, and whose acts constituted chiefly in raids and in petty depredations and sometimes in massacre.

It is well settled that a person must be mustered into the service before he can serve in the United States Army. It would, therefore, follow that a person engaged in this kind of warfare without having been mustered into the service of the United States must be presumed to have carried arms against the Government and his male descendants are not eligible to membership in the S.V., U.S.A. I would, therefore, recommend accordingly.

I remain very respectfully,

(Signed) C. S. ALLISON,
Judge Advocate, Div. California, S. V., U.S.A.

I concur in the conclusions reached by Judge Advocate C. S. Allison of the Callfornia Division, and would recommend that it be approved.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 7, 1900.

Official Decision No. X.

Reudered to Col. Ralph Sheldon, Commanding the Division of New York, Sons of Veterans, U.S A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., April 23, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion VIII., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, on the question of the past honors of a Captain elected to complete an unexpired term.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-Geueral, and adopt it as my decision. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion VIII.

A member of a Camp who has been duly elected as Captain, has, presumably, been duly installed and commissioned, and has served to the end of the term for which he was elected, and cannot be deprived of his past rank because the books of the Division Commander fail to show that he was duly installed and commissioned, if there is any evidence in the official records of the Division to show that he was recognized by the Division Commauder as the Captain of the Camp.

Opinion is asked on the following from the Commander of New York Division: —

I desire an opinion on the following: W. L. Allen was elected Captain of Camp No. 91, of New York Division, in December, 1898, to fill out an unexpired term and was re-elected in January for the year 1899. He signed the report for the December quarter as Captain of the Camp. This Camp never made another report to these headquarters. In February, 1900, W. L. Allen asked for a Division Transfer which was granted by myself. W. L. Allen presented

his Division Transfer to one of the Camps in this city and was accepted. I desire to know whether he is entitled to the rank of Past Captain. We have no record on file that he was installed or commissioned as Captain of Camp No. 91, for the unexpired term with the exception that his name was placed upon the "Roster of Officers." Upon the books he appears as Captain of Camp No. 91, elected Dec. 3, 1898, and placed here in the hand-writing of the Division Commander.

If the records of the Division Commander show that W. L. Allen was elected Captain to fill an unexpired term in December, 1898, and he signed the Camp records for the quarter ending December, 1898, as Captain, it is to be presumed, unless there is positive evidence to the contrary, that W. L. Allen was duly installed and commissioned for the unexpired term for which he was elected, and that he served to the end of said term. The failure of the Division Commander's records to show that he was duly installed and commissioned cannot deprive him of his past honors for the unexpired term. Particularly is this true in view of the last sentence of the above communication from the Commander of the New York Division.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 19, 1900.

Official Decision No. XI.

Rendered to Col. Ralph Sheldon, Commanding the Division of New York, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., April 23, 1900.

I hand you herewith Opinion IX., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, on the question of the right of a Camp to demand a fee for a transfer card.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and adopt it as my decision. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion IX.

A Camp cannot arbitrarily require the payment of a fee as a condition precedent to the issuing of a transfer card.

A communication has been received through you from the New York Division, as follows: —

I desire an opinion on the following facts. A member of Col. J. Meredith Read Camp No. 25, Division of New York, being in good standing and no charges against him, made application in writing for his transfer from that Camp. The request was refused and a demand was made for the sum of $2.00 before his transfer would be granted. The applicant refused to pay the sum and appealed to me as Commander of the Division. I wrote the Captain of the Camp asking for information on what ground they made such a demand. His reply was that the Camp By-Laws which have been approved by me, had such a clause inserted charging $2.00 for a transfer or an honorable discharge. The By-Laws had only been approved a short time previous and I have no recollection of any such clause, and as the Captain refused to present the By-Laws to me for inspection and knowing that such a clause was not in harmony with the C., R. & R., I issued an order revoking that clause and ordering the Captain of Col. J. Meredith Read Camp No. 25, to grant a transfer to the brother. The Camp granted the transfer on protest, the protest being written on the back of the transfer. To my knowledge they have never made a protest in writing to these headquarters nor to the Commander-in-Chief. The brother to whom the transfer card was issued presented his transfer to one of the other Camps in this city and was elected and accepted as a member of the Camp. I desire an opinion as to whether Camp No. 25 has any authority or

right to demand the sum of $2.00, or any other sum, for a transfer of any member who is in good standing and who has no charges existing against him.

After carefully looking up this matter I find that Chapter II., Article IV., Section 2, states: "Any brother against whom no charges exist, and who has paid all debts, shall on written application to the Captain of his Camp, at a stated meeting of the Camp, receive a transfer card, duly signed by the Captain, and attested by the First Sergeant and under seal." You will notice that this section says "who has paid all debts." If at the time the brother makes application for a transfer card he is square on the books of the Quartermaster-Sergeant, he has paid all "debts," he is entitled under this section to a transfer card. A Camp has no right, without the knowledge and approval of the proper authorities, to enact a By-Law requiring a fee for the granting of any right, provided by the C., R. & R. The Commander of the Division of New York disclaims any knowledge of the existence of such a provision among the By-Laws of Camp No. 25. I am, therefore, of the opinion that any By-Law of Camp No. 25, of the Division of New York, requiring the payment of any fee as a condition precedent to the granting of a transfer card is illegal and void. Aside from this I think it exceedingly poor policy, and a great detriment to the welfare of the Order, to permit a charge for a transfer. A free transfer would in many instances save members to the Order, while if compelled to pay for them they would refuse and permit themselves to be dropped. In the building up of an Order, it is not only policy, but desirable to avoid all unnecessary hardships, and the conditions for remaining in the Order should be made as easy and as desirable as possible.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D C., April 19, 1900.

Official Decision No. XII.

Rendered to Col. S. S. Horn, Commanding Division of Pennsylvania, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., May 9, 1900.

In re- the court-martial of M. F. Maley of Camp No. 49, of your Division, I herewith return you the same, disapproved, with instructions and Opinion X., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson.

I approve of the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and adopt it as my ruling in this case. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion X.

COURT-MARTIAL.—1. Evidence produced at the trial should be made a part of the record. An abstract of the evidence attached to the record is insufficient.

2. In a court-martial proceeding the charge must be proved by competent evidence.

COURT-MARTIAL OF PAST CAPT. M. F MALEY.—In the record in this case there has been no evidence forwarded to these headquarters for review. There is what purports to be an abstract of the evidence taken at the time of trial, but which is wholly incompetent and out of place in the record. The original evidence taken at the time of the trial should in all cases accompany the record when forwarded to the reviewing officer.

The abstract of the evidence furnished in this case, if correct, would indicate that there had not been sufficient evidence to convict the accused of the charge. The mere fact that the accused gave receipts in the name of the Quartermaster-Sergeant indicates no wrong doing. The further fact that the books of the Quartermaster-Sergeant do not show the amounts entered

equal to those received by the accused is not proof that the accused made way with the money. The Quartermaster-Sergeant should have been put on the stand in this case as a witness.

In view of a number of errors in this case, and the failure of the proof to sustain the charge made, I would recommend that the sentence be not approved, but that the whole proceedings be returned to the Division Commander with the recommendation that a proper trial be had.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 30, 1900.

Official Decision No. XIII.

Rendered to Col. A. G. Bennett, Commanding Division of California, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., June 1, 1900.

I hand you herewith Opinion XI., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, on the question of the right of past officers of the Order wearing the badges of past rank upon re-entry into the Order after having severed connection therewith. Also on the question of the eligibility to membership in the Order of a descendant of one who served on a revenue cutter during the War of 1861–5.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General and adopt it as my decision.

Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion XI.

A past officer who severs his connection with the Order is not entitled upon re-entry therein to wear a past officers' badge, unless the past rank shall be restored to him by action of the Commandery-in-Chief.

The son of a man who served in the United States Revenue Service during the war from 1861 to 1865 is not eligible to membership in the Order of the Sons of Veterans on account of such service.

The following has been forwarded to me through you from the Division of California for an opinion which is herewith submitted.

"*Dear Sir:* Can you please give me an official decision upon the following questions: —

"*First.* Has a Past Captain or Past Division Commander the right to wear their badge of past rank when they rejoin the Order after being out of the Order for over one year?

"Having been out of the Order for over one year they lose their votes, but do they lose the right of wearing the badge of past rank?

"*Second.* Was a man in the U.S. Revenue Service of 1861–65, serving as a Lieutenant or Acting-Lieutenant on a revenue cutter, in the U.S. Navy, and can his son join the Sons of Veterans?

"I think that in some pension cases ex-Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Webster Davis, has decided that those serving in the Revenue Service of 1861–65 were in the Navy.

"In the late Spanish war the revenue cutters served the same as war vessels, like the *McCullogh* serving in the battle of Manila Bay."

A member holding a past rank in the Order and who severs his connection therewith, not only loses the right to vote, but also the right to wear any of the past honor badges or the membership badge. Upon re-entry into the Order he comes in like any other recruit, and is entitled to wear the membership badge only, his former service and honors having been wiped out when he

severed his connection with the Order. They can be restored by action of the Commandery-in-Chief only.

Section 1, Article V., Chapter I., of the C., R. & R., provides that, "All male descendants, not less than eighteen years of age, of soldiers, sailors or marines who served in the Union Army during the war of 1861–65, etc." In this section there is no provision whatever for the son or other descendant of a person who served in the U.S. Revenue Service As the Revenue Service is, and always has been, considered a civilian branch, I am of the opinion that, generally, a descendant of a man who served in the Revenue Marine during the war of 1861–65 is not entitled to membership in the Order of the Sons of Veterans.

F. T. F JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 31, 1900

Official Decision No. XIV.

Rendered to Col. A. G. Bennett, Commanding Division of California, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., June 19, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion XII., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, relating to carrying power of a transfer card from one Camp to another of the rank of "Past Captain."

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General and adopt the same as my decision. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion XII.

A member of a disbanded Camp, who receives from the Commander of his Division a transfer card within one year from the date of the disbandment of said Camp, and who deposits said transfer card in any other Camp during the life of said transfer card, is entitled to any past honors that he may have acquired before the disbandment of his Camp.

The following has been referred to me for an opinion: —

"Is not a Past Captain of a *disbanded* Camp entitled to past honors in a *new* Camp organized one and and one-half years after the old Camp was disbanded, *providing* he has in his possession a transfer card granting past rank from the Division Commander within *one* year after the old Camp disbanded and deposits the same in the new Camp within six months of the date of issue of the transfer?"

The Commander of a Division may, under the authority of Sections 2 and 4, Article IV., Chapter II., of the C., R. & R., issue a transfer card to any member of a disbanded Camp who is in good standing at the time of such disbandment. In this connection see also Decision No. 13, of Past Commander-in-Chief Russell. It has been intimated in a decision of Past Commander-in-Chief Rake that a transfer card issued by the Commander of a Division must be issued within one year from the date of the disbandment of the Camp. I think this is good law and should be strictly followed. A transfer card is good for one year from the date of issue. I would say in passing that a Commander of a Division has no right to issue a transfer card to a member of a disbanded Camp after the expiration of one year from the date of disbandment of such Camp, as in such event the member will be a dropped member and can re-enter the Order only as a new member. A member who has received a transfer card from the Commander of his Division within one year from the date of the disbandment of his Camp and who deposits the same in any Camp within six months from the date thereof is entitled to such past honors as he may have had at the time of the disbandment of his Camp.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 15, 1900.

Official Decision No. XV.

Rendered to Col. Ralph Sheldon, Commanding Division of New York, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., June 27, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion XIII , of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, relating to the rights of one coming into our Order, but not eligible.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General and adopt the same as my decision. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion XIII.

1. A person less than eighteen years of age cannot legally be mustered as a member of the Order. If, however, such person should be mustered by mistake, it would be the duty of the proper authorities to erase his name from the rolls.

2. Where a Camp establishes a benefit fund for its members, neither a person who is illegally a member of the Order, nor those claiming under him, have any right to benefits.

You ask my opinion on the questions in the following communication received from the Commander of the New York Division: —

"Tappen Camp No 1, has a By-Law saying: 'Upon the death of a brother of the Camp, each member shall be assessed $1.00 to pay benefit.' The above is an exact copy of the By-Law.

"An applicant is proposed, elected and mustered, his application stating that he is eighteen years old After ten months' membership he dies and it is discovered that he was less than sixteen years old when mustered. He is also six months in arrears for dues. He is buried by the Order before these matters were discovered Is his family entitled to the benefit, or was he ever a member of the Order?"

"Is it legal for the Camp to collect the assessment of $1 00 to pay above benefit?"

On the question of facts stated in above communication I would say, that under Article V., Chapter I., of the C., R. & R., the deceased was not legally a member of the Order, as to become such it is necessary that the applicant should be at least eighteen years of age. If the applicant, in order to make himself appear eligible to membership, makes a false statement as to his age in his application, it is his own lookout. Upon the discovery that any such false statement has been made, it is the duty of the proper authorities to cause his name to be erased from the roll of the Order. There should be no publicity given such action. If the deceased was not legally a member of the Order, he was not legally a member of Tappen Camp No. 1, and, therefore, his heirs cannot be beneficiaries under the above By-Law. If it is the meaning of the above By-Law that whenever a member of Tappen Camp shall die, each member thereof shall be assessed $1.00 to pay death benefits, I am of the opinion that the assessment of $1.00 in view of the death of deceased, as he is not legally a member of the Camp, would be illegal and without warrant.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 25, 1900.

Official Decision No. XVI.

Rendered to Col. Lewis S. Chapman, Commanding Division of Connecticut, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., July 24, 1900.

I herewith hand you Opinion XIV., of Judge Advocate-General Johnson, relating to formal notification of next in command when Captain is away on leave issued by Division Commander.

I fully concur in the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General, and adopt the same as my decision. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion XIV.

When an officer is granted a leave of absence, it is the duty of the commanding officer granting such leave of absence to assign the next officer in rank to command in place of the one to whom the leave of absence is granted.

I have been asked for an opinion on the following:—

"Some time ago I granted a leave of absence to a Captain of a Camp of my Division and did not consider it necessary to notify the First Lieutenant to take the command, as it is his place to do so in the absence of the Captain. Exceptions have been taken to my not doing so and I therefore ask you for an opinion and your decision in the matter."

Section 1, Article V., Chapter II., of the C., R. & R., provides that when "the Captain is absent, the next elective officer in rank shall assume command." This is a provision to fill the office of Captain when he is absent from a meeting without leave, and it does not seem to cover the case of a Captain who is absent on official leave of absence granted by the Commander of the Division. This question does not appear to have heretofore arisen and I find no provision in the C., R & R., nor in any of the Decisions that seem to exactly cover the case. It is the custom in the regular army, upon which the organization of the Order is patterned, for a commanding officer, when a leave of absence is granted to a subordinate, to assign, by positive order, the next in rank to assume the command and duties exercised by the officer to whom leave of absence has been granted.

I think it is proper in such instances to follow the practice of the regular army, as the records of a Camp or Division are thereby made more complete. I, therefore, am of the opinion that a Division Commander who grants a leave of absence to a Camp Captain, should at the same time detail the next commanding officer in rank to assume the duties of such Captain and command the Camp, as acting Captain, during the period of the Captain's leave of absence, or until he shall again be directed to assume command.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 18, 1900.

Official Decision No. XVII.

Col. L. S. Whitney, Commanding Division of Colorado, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Aug 30, 1900

I herewith return you the By-Laws of the Colorado Division, submitted for my approval, also Opinion XV., of Judge Advocate General Johnson. I approve of the opinion of the Judge Advocate-General and of such of the By-Laws as do not conflict with his opinion or the C., R. & R., of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A. Yours fraternally,

A. W. JONES.
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

Opinion XV.

In the matter of the By-Laws of the Division of Colorado, I would call your attention to the following: —

ARTICLE I., Section 1.

While the object to be attained by this section is a very commendable and proper one, yet it would seem that unless the G.A.R. of the Colorado Division holds its Annual Encampment between January 1 and July 10 of each year, this section would conflict with Section 1, Article III., Chapter III. of the C., R. and R. I would therefore recommend, that unless the headquarters of the Colorado Division show to your satisfaction that the G A.R., of Colorado holds its Annual Encampment between January 1 and July 10, this section be not approved

ARTICLE I., SECTION 3.

I would recommend that this article be amended by adding after the word "shall" in line one, the words "at each Annual Encampment."

ARTICLE IV., SECTION 1.

I would recommend that this section be amended by cancelling the words, "issuing of commissions."

ARTICLE IV., SECTION 4.

I recommend that this section be disapproved; the subject matter of this section having already been passed upon by the Commandery-in-Chief.

ARTICLE V.

I would recommend that this article be disapproved as it is unnecessary, the subject matter thereof being more thoroughly covered in detail by Section 1, Article XIII., Chapter V, of the C., R. & R.

I would, therefore, recommend that the above noted action be made on these By-Laws.

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

WASHINGTON, D.C , Aug. 22, 1900.

TUESDAY — AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 o'clock.

Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

Delegate Wm. L. Ekvall acting as Inspector-General took up the password and countersign, and reported all present entitled to remain.

The calling of the roll was dispensed with, the Adjutant-General checking those present as they entered the hall.

(Roll Call No. 2.)

The Commander-in-Chief: The next in order is the report of the Senior Vice-Commander.

Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief Sortor read the following report:

REPORT OF SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Gen. ASA W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

Sir: The Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief has the honor to report that during his term of office the Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief has by your order inspected the Headquarters of the Iowa Division; upon

his own responsibility assisted in organizing the Iowa State Camp and by special invitation visited the Division Encampments in the States of Illinois, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Indiana and Ohio, without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief; also served upon the Military College Committee and the Committee of Fraternal Relations, without expense to the Commandery-in-Chief.

My chief observation is that as an Order we are today winning the respect of the American people because of the success of a great work in harmony with the teachings of our Order, and my only recommendation is that we "Weary not in well doing."

I am sir, your obedient servant,

A. L SORTOR, Jr.,
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

The Junior Vice-Commander's report; I presume we have none He is not here.

The next thing in order will be the report of the Adjutant-General.

Adjutant-General Baldwin read the following report: —

REPORT OF ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Gen. A. W. Jones,
Commander-in-Chief, S. of V., U.S.A.

Dear Sir and Brother: I have the honor to present my report as Adjutant-General, and in doing so I wish to express my thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me, and the continued expressions of confidence which I have ever received at your hands. It is needless for me to add that our relations have been most harmonious during the past official year, and in consequence of these relations I feel myself more closely attached to you, if possible, than heretofore.

RECORDS.

The several books of record appertaining to my department, which I received from my predecessor, have been maintained through the year.

There have been issued from the department of the Adjutant-General, nineteen dispensations for the muster of Camps, without first having been approved by the Commander-in-Chief. There have also been issued five General Orders, five Circulars and seven Special Orders, copies of which accompany this report. Charters for eighty-six Camps have been issued; the table pertaining to the same also accompanies this report.

TABLES.

Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4, herewith attached, are the Adjutant-General's Consolidated Reports for the quarters ending Sept. 30 and Dec. 31, 1899, and March 31 and June 30, 1900.

Table No. 5 is the recapitulation showing gains and losses.

Table No. 6 is the Roster of Division Commanders, 1900–1901.

Table No. 7 is the table of applications for Camp charters by Divisions.

Table No. 8 is the inventory of property in Adjutant-General's headquarters.

RECEIPTS.

The cash book shows the receipts of the Adjutant-General's office to have been: —

For *per capita* tax	$4,368.18
For charter fees	176.00

CARD INDEX.

The card index system for keeping the records of all Camps instituted, for these headquarters, by my predecessor, has been continued, and has been a material factor in detecting the errors in Adjutants' Consolidated Reports, and in showing at a glance the prosperity, or inactivity, of the various Camps.

OFFICIAL QUESTIONS.

There has been but one official question submitted to the Council-in-Chief during your term of office, which was for the purpose of determining the date of holding this Encampment. The Council were unanimous in supporting the date recommended by you. The canvass of the vote has been submitted to the Council-in-Chief for verification.

DIVISION BY-LAWS.

The By-Laws submitted for the approval of the Commander-in-Chief were from the Divisions of California, Maryland and Colorado. These were approved, with some minor exceptions which did not conform to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

MEMBERSHIP.

The actual membership of the Order at the close of business, Sept. 1, 1900, shows but little change in numbers from a year ago, the reported membership being 26,791, a gain of 30 over last year. But this does not include the Division of Washington, which failed to report; nor a loss, by suspension, of nearly 900 in the Division of New York, which is but temporary, and due to local causes, and which will undoubtedly be remedied in the next report. Were these added, as in justice to this administration they should be, it would bring the membership quite up to 28,000.

A careful study of our card index very clearly demonstrates that the large number which appear to be suspended in the Consolidated Report for each quarter, do not become actual losses, but are due to the neglect of Camp officers to forward reports promptly, many Camps reporting in good standing the following quarter. The record shows that many Camps are reported as suspended two or three times a year and reinstated equally as many times.

I am firm in the belief that the percentage of our suspensions could be greatly reduced if Quartermaster-Sergeants would be more

diligent in asking members to pay their dues, and Captains more prompt in making returns to Division headquarters, for it is quite evident that there is a general desire among the members of the Order to retain membership therein, otherwise our percentage of final losses would be larger.

BLANK FORMS.

Many of the forms in use do not meet the purposes for which they were intended, for the reason that the arrangement of the blank spacing, the headings or the instructions printed thereon are not in conformity with the present Constitution and the requisites of the Order. I therefore recommend that as the present supply of such forms becomes exhausted, the Quartermaster-General, with the advice of the Adjutant-General, be authorized to make such changes in the forms as will make them conform to our laws and requirements.

CONFLICTING SECTIONS OF THE C., R. & R.

Considerable misunderstanding and some annoyance is caused to these Headquarters and to Division Headquarters, in the manner of making returns and the payment of funds, by the conflictions in the Constitution. A comparison of Section 3, Article V., Chapter III., and Section 6, Article V., Chapter IV., with Section 1, Article III., Chapter V., will show very clearly why these difficulties arise. I therefore recommend that this Encampment take the necessary action for the correction of these evils, and in connection therewith it seems proper that as Division Commanders are bonded for the financial security of the funds handled by their staff officers, they should be permitted to direct in General Orders the officers to whom they desire financial returns made.

In conclusion I wish to state, that while serving as Adjutant under your State administration, and as Adjutant-General, I repeat the words of your old stenographer who served eight years for you, that I have never heard the first word of censure, but always words of encouragement.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

W. E BALDWIN,
Adjutant-General.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report of the Adjutant-General will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

STATISTICAL TABLES

Accompanying Adjutant-General's Report.

TABLE No. 1.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING SEPT. 30, 1899.

DIVISION.	NO. GOOD STANDING LAST REPORT		GAIN.						AGGREG'TE		LOSSES.										NO. IN GOOD STANDING.		No. Members Dropped.	No. Mustered during Quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is due		Amount Received Per Capita Tax.	Cash on hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity, Quartermaster Sergeants' Report.	No. of Members or their Families Relieved.	No. of Veterans or their families relieved.
			BY MUSTER IN			BY RE-IN-STAT'M'T		TOTAL GAIN			BY DIS-B'DM'NT					BY SUS-PENSION.			TOTAL LOSS.													
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By Transfer	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By death.	By Honorable Discharge.	By Transfer.	Camps.	Members.	By Dishonorable Dishargе.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.							
Alabama and Tennessee	9	168	....	....	....	....	1	....	1	1	169	....	....	....	....	....	2	34	....	2	34	7	135	....	....	....	$ 5 40	$ 18 37	$ 102 45	....	....	....
California	15	367	....	8	....	....	2	....	10	15	377	....	....	1	3	....	1	19	....	1	23	14	354	4	..	....	14 24	77 63	148 05	....	....	....
Colorado	4	79	....	1	....	....	....	....	1	4	80	....	....	....	....	....	2	43	....	2	43	2	37	....	....	....	1 48	....	....	....	....	....
Connecticut	26	746	....	9	1	....	3	....	13	26	759	1	18	1	1	....	....	53	....	1	51	25	708	....	....	....	28 32	29 79	765 95	3 00	....	....
Gulf	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	12	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Illinois	70	1821	1	59	....	....	15	1	74	71	1895	....	....	....	6	....	3	151	....	3	160	68	1735	....	1	24	69 04	96 38	902 85	6 00	5	5
Indiana	37	923	1	83	3	11	201	12	287	49	1210	....	....	1	1	2	4	171	....	4	176	45	1034	....	1	15	48 60	....	....	....	....	....
Iowa	27	449	....	26	....	3	69	3	95	30	544	1	10	3	1	....	6	109	....	7	123	27	431	....	....	....	19 16	5 79	246 93	2 00	....	....
Kansas	35	834	....	19	....	7	172	7	191	42	1025	....	....	3	....	2	8	227	....	8	232	34	793	....	....	....	37 80	27 02	259 23	15 85	....	....
Kentucky	5	83	....	....	2	....	1	....	3	5	86	....	....	....	....	....	....	8	....	....	8	5	78	....	....	....	2 88	31 71	....	....	....	....
Maine	37	1108	....	23	2	2	39	2	64	39	1172	....	....	1	2	....	2	66	....	2	66	37	1106	....	....	....	45 76	105 22	792 07	60	....	....
Maryland	21	468	....	9	....	....	1	....	10	21	478	....	....	....	....	1	1	56	....	1	57	20	421	16	....	....	16 88	38 41	327 76	6 32	2	3
Massachusetts	118	3516	2	74	5	3	87	5	166	123	3682	....	....	4	23	5	....	189	....	1	221	122	3461	83	2	36	140 48	602 93	4830 59	191 08	12	3
Michigan	35	762	....	28	2	3	69	3	99	38	861	....	....	2	1	1	6	162	....	6	166	34	695	....	....	....	31 88	....	396 96	70 56	....	....
Minnesota	15	324	1	26	4	2	48	3	78	18	398	1	....	....	1	2	2	31	....	3	34	15	364	....	1	25	16 48	....	....	....	....	....
Missouri	27	567	....	2	....	....	5	....	7	27	574	2	15	....	3	....	4	103	....	6	121	21	453	....	....	....	18 32	1 56	871 66	6 75	..	....
Nebraska	21	326	1	20	....	1	10	2	30	23	356	1	6	....	....	....	4	78	....	5	84	18	272	....	1	20	11 68	1 23	112 75	....	....	....
New Hampshire	16	528	1	29	2	....	....	1	31	17	559	....	....	....	2	....	....	18	....	....	20	17	539	....	....	....	20 92	134 45	589 38	....	....	....
New Jersey	23	822	....	17	....	....	....	....	17	23	839	....	....	2	....	....	....	16	....	....	18	23	821	1	....	....	32 84	51 33	1198 30	324 95	3	1
New York	78	2725	8	188	11	19	602	22	801	100	3526	1	15	4	11	3	3	186	....	4	219	96	3307	29	8	65	154 00	....	....	....	18	1
Ohio	82	1830	2	79	....	3	56	5	135	87	1965	1	18	2	3	1	13	334	....	14	358	73	1607	43	2	37	65 04	....	....	....	6	....
Oregon	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Pennsylvania	134	6414	7	414	3	5	128	12	545	146	6959	3	72	8	1	5	3	423	....	6	509	140	6450	176	7	132	258 24	308 26	10339 70	2772 58	93	3
Rhode Island	9	292	1	23	1	....	7	1	31	10	323	....	....	1	....	....	....	4	....	....	5	10	318	8	1	16	12 60	122 44	198 75	....	....	....
So. Dakota	14	247	....	1	....	....	....	....	1	14	248	....	....	....	4	..	3	42	....	3	46	11	202	....	..	....	8 08	3 84	96 95	....	....	....
Vermont	32	657	1	40	1	....	8	1	49	33	706	....	....	....	....	2	....	52	....	....	54	33	652	....	....	....	25 76	106 07	645 54	....	....	....
Washington	11	209	....	....	....	2	29	2	29	13	238	....	....	....	....	....	2	39	....	2	39	11	199	....	....	....	9 00	9 39	87 41	1 45	....	....
West Virginia	4	87	1	18	....	....	....	1	18	5	105	....	....	....	....	....	....	5	....	....	5	5	100	....	1	18	3 28	10 39	174 00	....	....	....
Wisconsin	23	500	....	13	1	4	73	4	87	27	587	....	....	1	3	....	5	111	....	5	115	22	472	....	....	....	21 80	90 85	195 60	66 07	12	1
Totals	918	26661	22	1209	□ 38	65	1626	87	2872	1017	29719	11	154	34	63	24	74	2660		86	2967	929	26694	372	20	389	$ 1118 76	$ 1873 06	$23284 88	$ 3469 21	146	17

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing at date of last report	918	26,661
GAIN:	Camps.	Members.
By muster in	22	1,209
By transfer		38
By reinstatement	65	1,626
Total gain	87	2,872
Aggregate	1,017	29,719
LOSS:	Camps.	Members.
By disbandment	11	154
By death		34
By honorable discharge		63
By dishonorable discharge		
By transfer		24
By suspension	74	2,660
Total loss	86	2,967
No. remaining in good standing Sept. 30, 1899	927	26,694

Amount received for capita tax	$ 1,118 76
Cash on hand at Division Headquarters	1,873 06
Cash on hand in Camps	23,284 88
Expended by Camps in charity	3,469 21

Number of Members Families Relieved ..... 146.
" " Veterans " " ..... 17.

TABLE No. 2.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1899.

DIVISIONS.	NO. GOOD STANDING LAST REPORT		GAIN.						AGGREGATE		LOSSES.										NO. IN GOOD STANDING		No. Members dropped.	No. mustered during quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is payable.		Amount received Per Capita Tax	Cash on hand at Division Head quarters.	Cash on hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity, Quartermaster Sergeant's report.	No. of Members or their families Relieved.	No. of Veterans or their families Relev d.
			BY MUSTER IN		By Transfer.	BY RE-IN-STAT'M'T		TOTAL GAIN.			BY DIS-BA'DED		By Death.	By Honorable Discharge.	By transfer.	BY SUS-PENSION.		By dishon'o'able discharge.	TOTAL LOSS					No. mustered during quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is payable.							
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.		Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.			Camps.	Members.		Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.		Camps.	Members						
Alabama and Tennessee	7	135	....	....	....	....	1	....	1	7	136	2	24	1	....	....	....		2	26	5	110	.....	....	....	$ 4 40	$ 24 94	87 48	.....	....	....
California	14	354	2	45	2	....	4	2	51	16	405	....	....	....	3	2	2	43	2	48	14	357	.....	2	32	13 16	88 44	157 87	.....	....	....
Colorado	2	37	....	5	.....	1	25	1	30	3	67	....	....	....	....	2	.....	2	.....	4	3	63	9	....	.....	3 52	16 33	16 28	.....	....	....
Connecticut	26	708	....	14	.....	....	2	....	.....	.....	.....	....	....	....	2	2	2	58	2	62	24	662	.....	....	.....	25 56	50 77	655 32	.....	....	....
Gulf	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Illinois	68	1735	2	130	1	1	27	3	158	71	1893	1	13	4	8	8	.....	100	1	133	70	1760	.....	2	44	69 36	78 78	891 41	14 70	....	6
Indiana	45	1034	1	56	8	4	77	5	141	50	1175	....	.....	1	2	1	8	202	8	206	42	969	.....	1	19	43 96	.....	.....	.....	....	....
Iowa	23	421	....	10	.....	8	121	8	131	31	552	1	13	1	....	....	4	100	5	114	26	438	.....	....	.....	22 86	12 63	253 74	12 00	....	....
Kansas	34	793	....	46	1	4	74	4	121	38	914	....	.....	....	1	10	286		10	287	28	627	.....	....	.....	29 72	63 94	244 89	22 30	....	....
Kentucky	5	78	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	78	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	22		1	22	4	56	.....	....	.....	2 24	38 22	.....	.....	....	....
Maine	37	1106	1	41	1	1	26	2	68	39	1174	....	.....	3	2	4	1	86	1	95	38	1079	.....	1	17	43 60	94 80	733 31	10 96	....	....
Maryland	20	421	....	12	.....	1	17	1	29	21	450	.....	.....	.....	2	2	1	46	1	50	20	400	10	....	.....	17 44	112 29	380 93	4 75	3	1
Massachusetts	122	3460	....	85	23	....	77	....	185	122	3645	3	58	5	30	13	2	228	5	334	117	3311	4	....	.....	135 52	599 72	5 00 67	26 65	3	11
Michigan	32	695	....	11	3	4	97	4	111	36	806	.....	.....	1	.....	3	2	154	2	158	34	648	.....	....	.....	30 64	39 22	589 87	16 37	....	....
Minnesota	15	364	....	6	1	2	52	2	59	17	423	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	20	1	21	16	4 2	.....	....	.....	18 16	4 97	420 85	.....	..	....
Missouri	21	443	....	9	.....	....	4	....	13	21	466	.....	.....	1	.....	2	47		2	48	19	418	.....	....	.....	16 88	18 88	893 65	10 00	...	....
Nebraska	18	272	1	23	.....	2	23	3	46	21	318	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	19		1	19	20	299	.....	1	22	12 00	24 23	161 58	.....	...	....
New Hampshire	17	539	....	15	1	....	.....	....	16	17	555	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	19	.....	21	17	534	3	....	.....	21 36	77 24	558 55	66 00	2	1
New Jersey	23	821	....	27	.....	....	6	....	33	23	854	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	55		.....	56	23	798	24	....	.....	32 16	129 46	1280 28	428 85	3	1
New York	96	33 7	3	175	6	8	195	11	376	107	3643	4	72	5	18	13	5	259	9	367	98	3316	35	3	49	137 80	179 45	7686 39	77 50	11	....
Ohio	73	1607	....	98	.....	1	35	1	133	74	1740	1	10	5	3	2	12	224	13	244	61	1496	.....	.....	.....	61 24	19 78	1383 59	38 00	4	1
Oregon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pennsylvania	140	6450	2	390	9	4	112	6	511	146	6961	2	13	6	2	2	1	256	3	279	143	6682	189	2	51	269 72	235 65	12998 80	2310 26	132	....
Rhode Island	10	318	....	8	.....	....	6	....	14	10	332	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	23	.....	26	10	3 6	6	....	.....	12 76	108 46	224 59	.....	....	....
So. Dakota	11	204	....	8	.....	.....	.....	....	8	11	212	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	1	33	1	37	10	175	.....	....	.....	7 00	9 33	186 82	.....	....	....
Vermont	33	652	....	15	5	.....	.....	....	20	33	672	.....	.....	1	1	.....	2	58	2	60	31	612	.....	....	.....	24 48	48 80	624 16	.....	....	....
Washington	12	212	....	15	.....	.....	13	....	28	12	240	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	40	3	40	9	200	.....	....	.....	8 52	9 29	116 11	1 43	....	....
West Virginia	5	101	.....	5	1	1	20	1	26	6	127	1	20	.....	.....	.....	1	31	2	51	4	76	.....	....	.....	3 84	8 52	249 94	.....	....	....
Wisconsin	22	472	....	8	.....	1	14	1	22	23	494	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	74	2	75	21	419	.....	....	.....	17 32	95 97	268 04	27 25	....	....
Totals	931	26749	12	1257	62	43	1028	55	347	986	29096	15	223	26	79	59	64	2486	79	2883	907	26213	280	12	234	$ 1094 72	$ 2190 21	$36582 97	$ 3057 02	158	21

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing at date of last report	931	26,749
GAIN:	Camps.	Members.
By muster in	12	1,257
By transfer		62
By reinstatement	43	1,028
Total gain	55	2,883
Aggregate	986	29,096
LOSS:	Camps.	Members.
By disbandment	15	223
By death		36
By honorable discharge		79
By dishonorable discharge		
By transfer		59
By suspension	64	2,486
Total loss	79	2,967
No. remaining in good standing Dec. 31, 1899	907	26,213

Amount received for capita tax	$ 1,094 72
Cash on hand at Division Headquarters	2,190 21
Cash on hand in Camps	36.582 97
Expended by Camps in relief	3,057 02

Number of Members Families Relieved ..... 158.
" " Veterans " " ..... 21.

TABLE No. 3.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 1900.

DIVISIONS.	NO. GOOD STANDING LAST REPORT		GAIN.						AGGREGATE		LOSSES.										NO. IN GOOD STANDING		No. Members dropped.	No. mustered during quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is payable.		Amount received Per Capita Tax	Cash on hand at Division Headquarters.	Cash on hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity, Quartermaster Sergeant's report.	No. of Members or their families Relieved.	No. of Veterans or their families Relieved.
			BY MUSTER IN			BY RE-IN-STAT'M'T		TOTAL GAIN.			BY DIS-BA'DED		By Death.	By Honorable Discharge.	By transfer.	BY SUS-PENSION.		By disho'orable discharge.	TOTAL LOSS												
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By Transfer.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.										Camps.	Members.							
Alabama and Tennessee	5	110	....	2	.....	....	2	....	4	5	114	....	.....	....	....	.....	2	....	.....	2	5	112	.....	.....	.....	$ 4 64	$ 24 19	82 03	15 65	....	....
California	14	357	....	25	.....	....	5	....	30	14	387	....	.....	....	1	.....	18	....	.....	19	14	368	.....	.....	.....	14 92	110 75	176 90	.....	.....	.....
Colorado	3	63	....	5	4	....	1	....	10	3	73	....	.....	....	.....	1	23	....	1	23	2	50	.....	.....	.....	2 04	14 61	10 75	.....	.....	.....
Connecticut	24	663	1	33	1	....	28	1	62	25	725	....	.....	....	8	1	3	91	....	3	100	22	625	.....	1	17	25 36	53 77	838 83	19 00	3	2
Gulf	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	131	7	131	7	131	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	131	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Illinois	70	1760	5	368	6	1	25	6	399	76	2159	2	24	....	3	7	3	134	....	5	168	71	1991	.....	5	141	75 60	72 65	1221 61	31 11	3	4
Indiana	42	969	1	42	1	8	126	9	169	51	1138	.....	.....	....	2	....	7	173	....	7	175	44	963	.....	1	20	44 96	.....	962 98	68 55	.....	.....
Iowa	26	438	1	167	1	16	177	17	345	43	783	1	12	....	1	.....	.....	13	....	1	26	42	757	.....	1	15	36 76	29 77	196 47	2 60	.....	.....
Kansas	28	627	....	15	2	8	155	8	162	36	799	.....	.....	1	1	1	7	127	....	7	130	29	669	.....	.....	.....	36 24	.....	197 12	36 14	.....	.....
Kentucky	4	56	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	56	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	18	....	1	18	3	38	.....	.....	.....	1 52	35 24	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maine	38	1079	....	27	.....	1	25	1	52	39	1131	1	.....	1	16	2	5	92	....	6	111	33	1020	.....	.....	.....	41 80	171 54	1074 02	21 79	.....	.....
Maryland	20	400	....	10	11	....	4	....	25	20	425	2	12	....	3	3	.....	6	....	2	24	18	401	.....	.....	.....	16 64	58 70	357 21	64 55	6	4
Massachusetts	117	3311	1	107	16	....	81	1	204	118	3515	2	30	5	22	10	4	230	....	6	297	112	3218	.....	1	24	132 72	264 85	5 73 05	202 08	27	5
Michigan	34	648	1	30	3	....	7	1	40	35	688	.....	.....	....	3	....	8	201	....	8	204	27	484	.....	1	15	19 04	40 80	453 68	67 80	.....	.....
Minnesota	16	402	1	33	.....	4	41	5	74	21	476	.....	.....	1	1	....	2	66	....	2	68	19	4 8	.....	1	23	18 82	13 44	37 22	5 00	.....	.....
Missouri	19	418	....	5	.....	....	12	....	17	19	435	1	16	1	3	.....	.....	26	....	1	46	18	389	.....	.....	.....	16 04	4 11	895 52	.....	.....	.....
Nebraska	20	299	....	3	2	1	20	1	25	21	324	3	24	.....	.....	1	3	76	....	6	101	15	223	.....	.....	.....	9 72	19 56	232 61	.....	.....	.....
New Hampshire	17	534	....	7	.....	....	3	....	10	17	544	.....	.....	3	1	3	.....	40	....	.....	47	17	497	.....	.....	.....	20 00	81 38	1285 96	69 07	3	3
New Jersey	23	798	....	34	.....	....	5	....	39	23	837	1	24	3	2	.....	1	58	....	2	87	21	750	.....	.....	.....	30 48	114 66	1791 82	53 95	2	....
New York	98	3316	4	312	10	4	92	8	414	106	3730	3	43	8	17	23	.....	157	....	3	243	103	3482	.....	4	80	142 12	110 20	6417 53	148 00	15	....
Ohio	61	1496	1	93	5	....	41	1	139	62	1635	.....	.....	....	4	1	1	100	....	1	105	61	1530	.....	1	34	62 36	6 85	1193 50	99 80	4	....
Oregon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pennsylvania	143	6682	....	438	10	2	151	2	599	145	7281	.....	.....	16	4	10	.....	250	.....	.....	280	145	7001	.....	.....	.....	290 60	225 11	15290 70	4841 21	149	1
Rhode Island	10	306	1	38	6	....	3	1	47	11	353	.....	.....	....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	3	11	350	.....	1	24	13 32	102 54	224 24	4 50	.....	.....
So. Dakota	10	175	1	29	.....	1	10	2	39	12	214	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	42	.....	2	42	10	172	.....	1	25	7 08	43 88	189 50	.....	.....	.....
Vermont	31	612	2	40	3	3	38	5	81	36	693	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	13	36	680	.....	2	32	27 44	93 55	648 47	.....	.....	.....
Washington	9	200	1	36	1	1	13	2	50	11	250	.....	.....	....	1	....	3	54	....	3	55	8	195	.....	1	33	7 12	20 3	200 33	.....	.....	.....
West Virginia	4	76	1	30	2	1	10	2	42	6	118	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	118	.....	1	15	4 52	16 32	241 71	.....	.....	.....
Wisconsin	21	419	....	12	.....	2	27	2	39	23	458	1	6	2	1	....	4	89	....	5	98	18	360	.....	.....	.....	15 48	84 35	2 1 41	31 00	4	....
Totals	907	26213	22	1951	74	60	1233	82	3258	989	29472	17	191	43	96	63	55	2097	....	72	2490	917	26982	.....	22	498	$ 1116 24	$ 1868 12	$40025 17	$ 5784 80	216	19

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing at date of last report		907 26,213
GAIN:	Camps.	Members.
By muster in	22	1,951
By transfer		74
By reinstatement	60	1,233
Total gain	82	3,258
Aggregate	989	29,472
LOSS:	Camps.	Members.
By disbandment	17	191
By death		43
By honorable discharge		96
By dishonorable discharge		
By transfer		63
By suspension	55	2,097
Total loss	72	2,490
No. remaining in good standing Mar. 31, 1900	917	26,982

Amount received for capita tax	$ 1,116 24
Cash on hand at Division Headquarters	1,868 12
Cash on hand in Camps	40,025 17
Expended by Camps in relief	5,784 80
Number of Members Families Relieved	216.
" " Veterans " "	19.

TABLE No. 4.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, 1900.

DIVISIONS.	NO. GOOD STANDING LAST REPORT		GAIN.						AGGREG TE		LOSSES.										NO. IN GOOD STANDING		No. Members dropped.	No. mustered during quarter on which no Per Capita Tax is payable.		Amount received Per Capita Tax	Cash on hand at Division Head quarters.	Cash on hand in Camps.	Expended in Charity, Quarter. master Sergeant's report.	No. of Members or their families Relieved.	No. of Veterans or their families Relieved.
			BY MUSTER IN			BY RE-IN-STAT'M'T		TOTAL GAIN.			BY DIS-BA'DED					BY SU'S-PENSION.		By disho'o'able discharge.	TOTAL LOSS						Camps,	Members					
	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By Transfer.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	By Death.	By Honorable Discharge.	By transfer.	Camps.	Members.		Camps.	Members.	Camps.	Members.							
Alabama and Tennessee.	5	112	....	....	....	....	1	....	1	5	113	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	....	....	2	5	111	....	....	....	$ 4 56	$ 14 45	$ 110 25	....	....	....
California	14	368	1	43	2	1	16	2	61	16	429	....	....	1	....	....	1	32	....	1	33	15	396	....	....	....	16 48	44 62	344 36	....	....	....
Colorado	2	50	....	13	....	1	2	1	15	3	65	....	....	....	....	1	1	8	....	1	9	2	66	....	....	....	3 92	12 26	15 59	....	....	....
Connecticut	22	625	....	11	....	2	44	2	55	24	680	....	....	....	4	....	....	32	....	....	36	24	644	....	....	....	25 84	107 54	535 62	11 50	....	....
Gulf	7	131	1	20	....	....	....	1	20	8	151	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	8	151	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Illinois	71	1991	2	167	5	....	16	2	188	73	2179	....	....	1	3	2	4	206	....	4	212	69	1967	1	2	68	75 96	99 15	873 56	....	3	4
Indiana	44	963	1	57	....	4	78	5	135	49	1098	....	....	1	2	....	....	64	....	....	67	49	1031	....	1	21	46 36	50 47	1179 98	58 10	2	....
Iowa	43	757	2	181	1	1	45	3	227	46	984	....	....	....	....	....	....	3	....	....	3	46	981	....	2	42	38 64	2 45	....	....	....	....
Kansas	29	669	....	32	2	1	18	1	52	30	721	....	....	....	1	1	13	345	....	13	347	17	374	....	....	....	15 68	1 04	158 37	5 00	....	....
Kentucky	3	38	....	1	....	....	....	....	1	3	39	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3	39	....	....	....	1 56	36 72	....	....	....	....
Maine	33	1020	....	....	....	1	15	1	15	34	1035	....	....	2	4	3	3	83	....	3	92	31	943	....	....	....	40 68	15 69	992 71	15 00	....	....
Maryland	18	401	....	6	13	....	....	....	19	18	420	2	22	1	....	....	3	50	....	5	73	13	347	....	....	....	13 88	44 25	314 32	31 42	2	4
Massachusetts	112	3218	4	231	8	2	111	6	350	118	3568	1	12	1	18	16	2	211	....	3	258	115	3310	45	4	93	134 80	335 04	4672 68	386 54	18	4
Michigan	27	484	....	25	2	1	38	1	65	28	549	....	....	....	1	....	5	97	....	5	98	23	451	....	....	....	19 20	23 62	....	....	....	....
Minnesota	19	408	....	21	....	....	....	....	21	19	429	....	....	....	1	....	3	42	....	3	43	16	386	....	....	....	15 44	46 80	204 17	24 07	....	....
Missouri	18	389	1	37	2	....	4	1	43	19	432	....	....	2	4	....	2	47	....	2	53	17	379	13	1	18	14 60	9 21	640 17	....	....	....
Nebraska	15	222	....	6	1	2	48	2	55	17	277	1	22	....	1	....	8	130	....	9	131	8	146	....	....	....	7 32	13 67	65 38	....	....	....
New Hampshire	17	497	1	29	....	....	22	1	51	18	548	....	....	....	2	4	....	13	....	....	19	18	529	....	1	15	22 04	75 81	1257 58	21 33	....	....
New Jersey	21	750	....	22	....	....	10	....	32	21	782	....	....	....	1	7	1	45	....	1	53	20	729	21	....	....	30 44	125 32	1572 62	101 35	3	1
New York	103	3482	4	255	17	....	26	4	298	107	3780	2	32	6	19	6	28	770	1	30	834	77	2946	....	4	86	115 12	233 61	5990 03	25 00	6	1
Ohio	63	1530	....	107	5	3	51	3	163	66	1693	....	....	4	....	1	....	40	....	....	45	66	1648	....	....	....	68 76	83 80	1229 90	16 27	....	2
Oregon	7	100	....	31	....	....	....	....	31	7	131	2	28	....	....	1	2	39	....	4	68	3	63	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Pennsylvania	145	7001	....	412	14	....	100	....	526	145	7527	2	27	15	7	11	3	374	....	5	434	140	7093	110	....	....	288 04	107 87	16139 75	3516 25	133	2
Rhode Island	11	350	....	22	7	....	....	....	29	11	379	....	....	2	1	3	....	7	....	....	13	11	366	....	....	....	14 64	80 11	195 34	7 76	1	1
So. Dakota	10	172	2	77	1	....	....	2	78	12	250	....	....	....	....	....	5	107	....	5	107	7	143	....	2	36	4 28	17 24	116 47	....	....	....
Vermont	36	680	....	20	1	....	12	....	33	36	713	....	....	1	1	....	....	16	....	....	18	36	695	....	....	....	28 28	99 00	604 16	....	....	....
Washington	8	195	†																													
West Virginia	6	118	1	38	3	1	10	2	51	8	169	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	1	8	168	....	1	20	7 92	35 92	170 41	....	....	....
Wisconsin	18	360	1	35	....	3	63	4	98	22	458	1	13	1	4	....	1	50	....	2	68	20	390	....	1	20	17 32	58 77	167 58	....	....	....
Totals	927	27081	21	1899	84	23	730	44	2713	963	29599	11	134	38	74	56	85	2814	1	96	3117	867	26482	189	19	419	$ 1071 76	$ 1773 53	$37451 00	$ 4219 93	168	15

†No Reports and no tax.

RECAPITULATION.

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing at date of last report	927	27,081
GAIN:	Camps.	Members.
By muster in	21	1,899
By transfer		84
By reinstatement	23	730
Total gain	44	2,713
Aggregate	963	29,599
LOSS:	Camps.	Members.
By disbandment	11	134
By death		38
By honorable discharge		74
By dishonorable discharge	1	
By transfer		56
By suspension	85	2,814
Total loss	96	3,117
No. remaining in good standing June 30, 1900,	867	26,482

Amount received for capita tax	$ 1,071 76
Cash on hand at Division Headquarters	1,773 53
Cash on hand in Camps	37,451 00
Expended by Camps in relief	4,219 93

Number of Members Families Relieved.....168.
" " Veterans " " ..... 15.

TABLE No. 5.

RECAPITULATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS.

GAIN.	By Muster.		By Transfer.	By Reinstatement.	
	Camps.	Members.	Members.	Camps.	Members.
September Quarter, 1899	22	1,209	38	65	1,626
December Quarter, 1899	12	1,257	62	43	1,028
March Quarter, 1900	22	1,951	74	60	1,233
June Quarter, 1900	18	1,899	14	23	730
Aggregate	74	6,316	188	191	4,617

LOSS.	By Disbanded.		By Death.	By Hon. Discharge.	By Transfer.	By Suspension.		By Dish. Discharge.
	Camps.	Members.	Members.	Members.	Members.	Camps.	Members.	Members.
September Quarter, 1899	11	154	34	63	24	74	2,660	
December Quarter, 1899	15	223	36	79	59	64	2,486	
March Quarter, 1900	17	191	43	96	63	55	2,097	
June Quarter, 1900	11	134	38	74	56	85	2,814	1
Aggregate	54	702	151	312	202	278	10,057	1

	Camps.	Members.
Number in good standing June 30, 1900	930	26,861
Total gain	268	11,190
Aggregate	1,198	38,051
Total loss	333	11,541
Number in good standing June 30, 1900	867	26,482
Number mustered since June 30, 1900 (in new Camps)	12	309
Total membership Sept. 7, 1900	879	26,791

Division of Washington not represented in report of June 30, 1900.

TABLE No. 6

Roster of Division Commanders, for the Year 1900–1.

DIVISION.	COMMANDER.	ADDRESS.
Ala. and Tenn.,	ORVILLE H. HALL,	715 English-American Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.
California,	A. G. BENNETT,	57 S. First St. San Jose.
Colorado,	LORIN S. WHITNEY,	1715 California St., Denver.
Connecticut,	LEWIS S. CHAPMAN,	Derby
Gulf,	ED. GROSS,	218 Exchange Place, New Orleans, La.
Illinois,	W. E. HULL,	530 Main St., Peoria.
Indiana,	SID. CONGER,	Shelbyville.
Iowa,	GUY R. CARSON,	Des Moines.
Kansas,	G. B. SELLECK,	Emporia.
Kentucky,	B. M. HARWOOD,	Bayliss Ave , Louisville.
Maine,	E. N. COURSON,	116 Main St., Brunswick.
Maryland,	D. M. RITTENHOUSE,	Raines Bldg, Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	FRED E. WARNER,	Salem.
Michigan,	F. E. MUNGER,	1135 Court St., Port Huron.
Minnesota,	C. M. RAWITZER,	129 1st Ave , N., Minneapolis.
Missouri,	OSCAR R. FRIES,	1600 S. Broadway, St. Louis.
Nebraska,	CHARLES C. STULL,	Osceola.
New Hampshire,	WM. R. BLAKE,	13 Thompson St., Concord.
New Jersey,	ROBT. J. VAN HOUTEN,	Sons of Veterans' Hall, Patersou.
New York,	CHAS. H. E MORAN,	Room 5, 33 State St., Albany.
Ohio,	F. W. HENDRIX,	Springfield.
Oregon,	C. B. ORAI,	Pine.
Pennsylvania,	S W. MACURDY,	32 N. 5th St., Philadelphia.
Rhode Island,	FRANK J. CLINTON,	47 Washington St., Providence
So Dakota,	VIRGIL D. BOYLES,	Mitchell.
Vermont,	ELMER E. PERRY,	Barre.
Washington,	C. W. HARMON,	Walla Walla.
W. Virginia,	JOHN W. MCCLUNG,	Grafton
Wisconsin,	J. W. T. AMES,	River Falls.

TABLE No. 7.

Showing Charter Applications Approved and Number of Applicants.

Division.	No. of Camps.	No. of Applicants
Alabama and Tennessee	1	27
California	3	60
Colorado		
Connecticut	2	54
Gulf	3	35
Illinois	14	406
Indiana	4	84
Iowa	7	136
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Maine	2	37
Maryland		
Massachusetts	7	196
Michigan	2	41
Minnesota	1	15
Missouri	1	16
Nebraska	3	93
New Hampshire	1	17
New Jersey	1	33
New York	13	304
Ohio	2	60
Oregon	1	18
Pennsylvania	4	87
Rhode Island	2	51
So. Dakota	4	81
Vermont	3	51
Washington	2	59
W. Virginia	2	33
Wisconsin	1	29
Totals	86	2,023

TABLE No. 8.

List of Furniture belonging to the Department of the Commander-in-Chief and Adjutant-General.

2 Cabinet Desks.
1 Letter File Case.
2 Office Desk Chairs.
1 Typewriter Table.
1 Letter Press and Stand
2 Seals.
National Commandery Guidons, with Box.
1 Case Embroidered Corps Marks.
1 Book Case.
1 Typewriter Cabinet.
1 Office Stool.
6 Office Chairs.
1 Card Index Case.
1 Yost Typewriter.
1 Stand of Colors.
1 Headquarters Trunk
1 High Bookkeeper's Desk
1 Document Filing Case and Base.
Books of Record.

Portraits of Merrill, Abbott, Griffin, Webb, Hall, Maccabe, Bundy, Russell, Rake and Darling, and group of Past Commanders.

GENERAL ORDERS.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, Sept. 20th, 1899.

GENERAL ORDER, }
NO. 6. }
SERIES OF 1899. }

I. Having been duly elected and installed Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., for the ensuing year by the action of the 18th Annual Encampment, held at Detroit, Mich., September 7, 8 and 9 1899, command is hereby assumed and headquarters established at Youngstown, Ohio.

II. The following officers were duly elected and installed at the 18th Annual Encampment, and will be respected and obeyed accordingly:

Commander-in-Chief, A. W. JONES, Youngstown, Ohio.
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, A. L. SORTOR, Jr., Mason City, Ia.
Junior Vice Commander-in Chief, WALTER L. RAYNES, Battle Creek, Mich.
Council-in-Chief: G. B. ABBOTT, Chicago, Ill.
Rev. W. J. PATTON, Matinette, Wis.
GEORGE ADDINGTON, Albany, N. Y.

III. Pursuant to the action of the Commandery-in-Chief, the 19th Annual Encampment will be held at Syracuse, N. Y., the date thereof to be designated by the Commander-in-Chief, approved by Council-in Chief.

IV. G. B. Abbott will continue to act as Adjutant General until a permanent appointment is determined upon and promulgated.

V. The following appointments on the staff of the Commandery-in-Chief are hereby promulgated:

To be Inspector General, ALF G LLOYD, Sharpsburg, Pa.
To be Judge Advocate General: F. T. F. JOHNSON, 611 7th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.
To be Surgeon General: DR. C. W. STAPLES, Lyndonville, Vt.
Further appointments will be announced later.

VI. H. V. Speelman, of Columbus, Ohio, is hereby detailed as Personal Aide of the Commander-in-Chief.

VII. Past Col. Wm. G. Dustin, of Dwight, Ill., is detailed as Special Aide to the Commander-in-Chief, and assigned to duty as press representative for the Commandery-in-Chief. Each Division Commander is requested to forward, or cause to be forwarded, through some designated brother, matter of interest for publication from his Division, to Col. Dustin, Editor of the Banner, official organ of the Sons of Veterans, published at Dwight, Ill.

VIII. During the recent Encampment the following brothers were detailed as a committee on the Military College for the ensuing year:

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, A. L. SORTOR, Jr., Mason City, Ia.
Past Colonel WM. T. CHURCH, Chicago, Ill.
Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief GEO. E. COX, Hartford, Conn.
Colonel W. A. MORRIS, Redfield, S. D.
Past Colonel H. E. COWDIN Rockford, Michigan.

IX. In order to properly carry out and expedite the transaction of official business, the following should be carefully observed: Communications to the Commander-in-Chief or Adjutant General to be addressed to Youngstown, Ohio. All reports to be addressed to G. B. Abbott, Acting Adjutant General. All remittances for charter fees and per capita tax must be sent to G B. Abbott, Acting Adjutant General, by draft on Chicago or New York, or post office or express money orders payable at Youngstown, Ohio. All requisitions for supplies and remittances therefor should be sent to Quartermaster General Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston, Mass., such remittances to be made payable to him by draft on New York or Boston, or post office or express money orders payable at Boston, Mass.

X. There was no change made in the per capita tax for the Commandery-in-Chief for the ensuing year. There was no change adopted in the ritual.

XI. The Banner, published at Dwight, Ill., is made the official organ of the Commandery-in-Chief, and all General Orders will appear therein.

XII. The Roll of honor of members of the order who served in the Spanish–American war has been published and is now in the hands of the Quartermaster General ready for distribution. A sufficient number only have been printed to provide each brother whose name appears on said Roll with a copy thereof, and he will receive the same direct upon forwarding six cents in stamps to cover the necessary expense of mailing and postage to Quartermaster-General Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston, Mass.

XIII. There still remain in the hands of the Quartermaster General several hundred copies of the proceedings of the 17th Annual Encampment held at Omaha, which will be forwarded to those sending the necessary postage, ten cents, to the Quartermaster General, until the supply is exhausted.

XIV. There were but two changes made in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations at the recent Encampment. The first provides in effect that the Captains of Camps who permit their Camps to stand suspended at the expiration of their terms of office, and Commanders of Divisions who fail to make final reports and pay per capita tax for their respective Divisions for the last quarter of their terms of office, shall be deprived of past rank. Second, in cases where a camp has been suspended a Division Commander may issue transfer cards to such members as may be in good standing, permitting the incorrigibles to remain suspended.

XV. Inspector General Alf G. Lloyd is hereby ordered on duty and directed to enter into the necessary arrangements for the inspection of Divisions and Division headquarters.

By Command of

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, Nov. 11. 1899.

GENERAL ORDER, NO. 7, SERIES OF 1899.

I. The following appointments on the staff of the Commandery-in-Chief are hereby promulgated:

To be Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. J. E. Zeiter, of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., with rank from Sept. 9.

To be Adjutant General, W. E. Baldwin, of Youngstown, Ohio, with rank from Oct. 25.

To be Asst. Quartermaster General, Thomas J. Hannon, of Mass., with rank from Sept. 9.

To be Aide-de-Camp, Frank R. Handley, of California, with rank from Sept. 9.

Counsel-in-Chief G. B. Abbott is hereby detailed for duty in the office of the Adjutant General, Youngstown, Ohio.

II. The following details and assignments as Assistant Inspectors General have been made by the Inspector General, Alfred G. Loyd, and approved by the Commander-in-Chief. A faithful performance of the duties assigned is expected from each member:

DIVISION.	ASST. INSPECTOR GEN.	RANK.	ADDRESS.
Ala. & Tenn.	W. L. Friedman,	Past Commander.	Birmingham, Ala.
California,	Chas. L. Pierce,	" "	San Fancisco, Cal.
Colorado,	B. G. Robbins,	" "	Colo. Springs, Colo.
Connecticut,	Fred E. Bolton,	Q. M. General.	Boston, Mass.
Illinois,	Wm. G. Dustin,	Past Commander.	Dwight, Ill.
Gulf,	Josiah Gross,	" "	New Orleans, La.
Indiana,	Alf G. Loyd,	Inspector General	Sharpsburg, Pa
Iowa,	A. L. Sortor, Jr.	Sr. Vice C.-in-C.	Mason City, Iowa.
Kansas,	H. Meade Lewis,	Past Captain,	Wichita, Kansas
Kentucky,	A. E. B. Stephens,	Commander	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Maine,	Arthur M. Soule,	Past Commander.	Portland, Me.
Maryland,	R. M. J Reed,	Past C.-in-C.	Philadelphia, Pa.
Massachusetts,	A. B. Spink,	" Commander.	Providence, R. I.
Michigan,	H. E. Cowdin,	" "	Rockford, Mich.
Minnesota,	Geo. E. Tinker.	" "	St. Paul. Minn.
Missouri,	B. W. Frauenthal,	" "	St. Louis. Mo.
Nebraska.	O. L. Salisbury,		Omaha, Neb.
New Hampshire,	Geo E. Leighton,	" "	Portsmouth, N. H.
New Jersey,	John E. Sautter,		Sharpsburg, Pa
New York,	Wm B. McNulty,	" "	Philadelphia. Pa.
Ohio,	E. H. Archer,	" "	Columbus, Ohio.
Oregon,	C B. Orai,		Pine, Oregon
Pennsylvania,	Geo. H. Bailey,	Commander.	Atlantic City, N. J.
Rhode Island,	Geo. E. Cox,	Past Commander.	Hartford, Conn.
So. Dakota,	Z. C. Green,	" "	Brookins, So. D.
Vermont,	John E. Fox,	" "	Burlington, Vt.
Washington,			
West Virginia,	F. W. Myers,	" "	Parkersburg, W. Va
Wisconsin.	Wm. T. Church,	" "	Chicago, Ill.

III. The bonds of the Commander-in-Chief and the Quartermaster General have been approved by and are in the custody of the proper officers.

IV. Dispensation is hereby granted to such Divisions requiring the same, permitting an extension of time for the completion of the current inspection of the camps.

V. Division Commanders will call attention of Camp Commanders to the use of Form 16 in making application for the war records of the ancestors of applicants for membership, and in the employment of the same it will greatly facilitate the procuring of the record if all possible information pertaining thereto is entered upon this form.

VI. Hereafter the official seal for camps will be supplied through the department of the Quartermaster General, Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Building, Boston, Mass.

VII. It is again necessary to call the attention of Division Commanders to the manner in which mustering officers continue to prepare their reports in the mustering of camps. It is utterly impossible for the Adjutant General to prepare charters correctly unless the names of the mustered in the mustering officer's report are very carefully and legibly written. Each Division Commander must see that these requests are complied with before forwarding the report of the muster of a camp to these headquarters.

VIII. The Division Commanders will see that copies of their Division Orders are sent to the different officers of their respective Divisions of the G. A. R., W. R. C., Ladies of the G. A. R., L. A. S. and D. V.

IX. Patriotic observation of the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, February 12, originated with the Order of Sons of Veterans, it being especially designated by us as "Union Defenders' Day," and in continuation of the sentiments and exercises which we are accustomed to indulge in on that occasion, the attention of Camps is thus early directed to the coming event that they may make proper preparation therefor. Before the first day of January a circular will be issued through the Department of the Chaplain-in-Chief, pertaining to appropriate exercises for that day, and every camp and every member of the order is expected to participate in these exercises and in this connection attention is called particularly to Article 5, Page 11, of the Camp Constitution under the title of "Meetings."

X. During the session of the recent Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, much enthusiasm was aroused by the report presented by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief A. L. Sortor, Jr., in regard to our proposed Military College. The Order has attempted nothing which will redound as much to its glory and credit as will the establishment of this college and the exertion of the committee having the matter in charge has been rewarded by such generous encouragement that the means for establishing this institution seems almost within our grasp and by a little exertion on the part of the membership at large, it can easily become an accomplished fact. Each member should be willing to contribute a small amount.

XI. Division Commanders will note that there has been no change made concerning the transaction of official business to those Headquarters from Section 9 and General Order No. 6.

XII. Complaint is made that the Commanders of several Divisions are negligent in forwarding the General Orders of the Commander-in-Chief, immediately on receipt of the same, to their respective camps. It is hoped that from this on there will be no further complaint.

XIII. This is the time of year when the effective work for the Camp must be done. If each member would bring in just one recruit it would double the membership of the Order. Each Camp should subscribe for some Sons of Veterans paper and learn what is going on in the Order. Get ideas how to make the Camp entertaining, how to get in recruits and how to keep them. Michigan has its Messenger, Maine has the Sons of Veterans Journal, Kansas its Sunflower Picket, Iowa its Camp Guard, and the whole Order has The Banner, published at Dwight, Ill., which is the official organ of the Sons of Veterans. Every Camp should take at least one of these papers, and any individual would get his money's worth by subscribing.

XIV. Quartermaster Sergeants should be reminded that it is easier to collect the dues of a brother and save him from suspension than it is to get him reinstated or secure a new recruit to take his place.

By command of
A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
W. E. BALDWIN,
Adjutant General,

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,

947 TREMONT BUILDING,
BOSTON, MASS., Sept. 1, 1899.

GEN. FRANK L. SHEPARD,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.
Chicago, Ill.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have the honor to submit my report for the term ending August 23, 1899:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

ASSETS:		LIABILITIES:	
Furniture	$ 463 44	Due to Divisions	$ 30.91
Supplies	1,119.82	Monument Fund	20.00
Cash	1,378.02	Surplus	2,917.91
Due from Divisions	7.54		
Total	$2,968 82	Total	$2,968.82

The account of profit and loss from Sept. 14, 1898, to Aug. 23, 1899, is as follows:

LOSSES:	DR.	GAINS:	CR.
Furniture, 10 per cent reduction	$ 51.49	Charter Fees	186.00
Supplies*	243.42	Per Capita tax*	4869.01
Salaries	2800.00	Supplies	706.12
General Orders	126.60		
Traveling Expenses	301.60		
Office expenses	1128.27		
General expenses	411.64		
17th Annual Encmp't	461.49		
18th " "	34.00		
Balance net gain	202.62		
Total	$5761.13	Total	$5761.13

*Of this amount $213.50 account issue new rituals (free).

*Of this amount $14.80 account credit of $25 extended by 17th Encampment to Oregon Division.

FRED E. BOLTON,
Quartermaster-General.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 1, SERIES 1900. } YOUNGSTOWN, March 30, 1900.

I. The Council-in-Chief having concurred, the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief will be convened in the city of Syracuse, N.Y., Sept. 11, 12 and 13, 1900.

II. The following are detailed as the Committee on Transportation: Gen. Fred E. Bolton, 947 Tremont Bldg., Boston, Mass., Chairman; Gen. R. M. J. Reed, 32 North Fifth St., Philadelphia, Pa.; Col. E. W. Estes, New York City, N.Y.; Col. Wm. T. Church, 79 Dearborn St., Chicago; Col. E. H. Archer, Columbus, Ohio.

III. The following committee is appointed upon Fraternal Relations to attend the Thirty-fourth Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and Auxiliary Associations, to be held in Chicago, Aug. 27, 28, 29, 1900, the Chairman of the Committee being empowered to add thereto: Gen. Frank L. Shepard of Chicago, Chairman; Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief A. L. Sortor of Iowa; Past Commander C. G. Marsh of Illinois; Past Commander Wm. H. Armstrong of Indianapolis; Past Commander Wm. G. Dustin of Dwight, Ill.; Past Commander Wm. T. Church of Chicago.

IV. Senior Vice-Commander Geo. I. Butchers of Eugene, has assumed command of the Division of Oregon.

V. Edward Gross, 218 Exchange Place, New Orleans, La., has been authorized to assume command of the Division of the Gulf.

VI. The Camps of Syracuse report encouraging progress in their arrangements for our coming National Encampment. Of the Committee of Arrangements, the Hon. Adam C. Listman is Chairman, Geo. B. Cathers is Treasurer, and J. Frank Durston, 24 White Memorial Bldg., is the Secretary.

VII. The attention of Division Commanders is called to the following new section (6) added to Article IV., Chapter V., C., R. & R., by the Nineteenth Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, as follows: —

SECTION 6. If a Division Commander or a Camp Captain permits his Division or Camp to be suspended and remain suspended until the expiration of the term for which he is elected, he shall not be entitled to past rank.

VIII. The Commander-in-Chief wishes especially to commend Gen. Kilpatrick Camp No. 233 of Easton, Pa. It is of this Camp that Division Commander Horn is a member. The Camp has a membership of three hundred and forty in good standing,—a gain of one hundred during the last quarter of 1899, and a net gain for the year of one hundred and fifty-seven. This is a fine showing. There are many other Camps which could do equally as well or better if the effort was made to do so.

IX. It is with regret that the announcement is made of the death of Past Commander Geo. E. Terrill of Underhill, Vermont, which occurred the 28th of last December. Brother Terrill was one of the leaders of his Division, one of its earliest Commanders, one of the most faithful members of the Order in New England. The Division of Vermont sustains a serious loss in his death, and many of the earlier members of the Order sadly join in the grief at his death.

X. The attention of the Order generally is called to a cut of the Coat-of-Arms being used by many Camps and Divisions which is decidedly improper. It is the Coat-of-Arms wherein the crossed sabers are pointing downward, which signifies "of ignoble birth." Wherever encountered, members of the Order are requested to immediately destroy these spurious cuts. The correct Coat-of-Arms is described in the Constitution and the points of the crossed sabers are upward, like those in the cut at the head of this Order.

XI. From Division Orders received at these Headquarters it seems apparent that the officers of some Divisions are endeavoring to compel commissioned officers-elect of Camps to pay for their respective commissions. This is directly contrary to the action of the Eighteenth Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, which decreed that the law is mandatory and that Division Commanders MUST commission the commissioned officers-elect of Camps whether the commissions are purchased or not.

XII. Division officers are reminded that changes or additions in Division by-laws are only effective after having been approved by the Commander-in-Chief.

XIII. At the suggestion of the Chaplain-in-Chief, Division Commanders-elect and to be elected are urged to be especially careful in the selection of Division Chaplains. Wherever it is possible, a clergyman should be appointed to that position, but if none can be found in the Division, the appointee should be not only a man distinguished for his godliness, but of educational qualities sufficiently high to enable him to perform his duties in a manner in keeping with the office.

XIV. The following Divisions have held their Encampments and elected Commanders as follows: Frank J. Clinton, 47 Washington St., Providence, R.I.; Robert Van Houten, Sons of Veterans Bldg., Paterson, N.J.; Lewis S. Chapman, Derby, Conn.; Fred E. Warner, Salem, Mass.

XV. The following Division Encampments have been announced: —

Illinois at Jacksonville, May 2, 3 and 4.
California at San Francisco, May 7.
Pennsylvania at New Castle, June 11, 12.
Indiana at Elwood, June 27, 28 and 29.

Divisions who have not notified these headquarters of the date and place of their coming respective Encampments, should do so at once.

XVI. A time has arrived in the history of our Order when we should cease to look upon ourselves as boys and assume the responsibilities of men. The object should not be to see how cheap an Order we can maintain, but how good and grand we can make it. The opportunity was never fairer, nor the prospects brighter; and we should take advantage of the opportunities which present themselves. There is a strong sentiment developing in the Grand Army of the Republic which obtains for a closer relationship with us. The phenomenal encouragement which the idea of establishing a Military Memorial College receives, speaks volumes for our future, and not among the least of the advantages this will bring us, will be an opportunity to place organizers in the several Divisions for the building up of the Order. Our official organ, *The Banner*, published at Dwight, Ill., is doing splendid service and the wisdom of the Massachusetts Division in its recent Encampment was clearly shown, when it authorized the Commander of that Division to subscribe for a copy to be sent to every member of the Division for three years. For several years an insurance feature has been steadily working for the good of the Order in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. Its management is exclusively in the hands of the members of the Order. The success of the Division of New Jersey in maintaining its membership with practically no suspensions for the year, is contributed at these headquarters to the fact that nearly every member of that Division is also a member of the Sons of Veterans Death Benefit Association. The Commanders of Divisions and members of Camps generally are advised to inquire into the workings of this Association. It is for these foregoing reasons, namely: the encouragement which is surely coming to us from the G.A.R., our Military College which is going to give us a strong organizing force, the fraternal spirit which will be encouraged by

means of our official organ, and the means of economically and safely providing for a death benefit by those who may desire it, that the present prospects surely seem bright to the thinking members.

XVII. In closing this rather lengthy order, attention of the members is urgently called to the near approach of Memorial Day, and active preparations should be undertaken at once for its observation in the manner in keeping with our principles and objects. The letter of the Chaplain-in-Chief will follow this order almost immediately and wherein this matter will be brought to your attention in a fitting manner by your proper officer.

By command of A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
W. E. BALDWIN,
Adjutant-General.

CHARTERS APPROVED.

Since last publication, application for charters have been approved and Camps mustered as follows: —

DATE.	NO.	LOCATION.	DIVISION.	NUMBER OF APPLICANTS.
1899.				
Aug. 9	330	Greenup	Illinois	24
" 12	30	Montieello	New York	23
" 14	57	Millersburg	Indiana	20
" 18	19	Providenee	Rhode Island	22
" 23	172	Tipton	Indiana	24
" 30	37	Highland Falls	New York	27
Sept. 1	12	Boston	Massachusetts	21
" 14	147	Stormsberg	Nebraska	28
" 18	10	Buehtegl	Ohio	15
" 23	255	Downintown	Pennsylvania	27
Oet. 5	111	Elmwood	Illinois	19
" 19	133	Audenreid	Pennsylvania	35
" 26	201	Geneseo	New York	33
Nov. 7	53	Bellwood	Pennsylvania	20
" 8	77	Minnesota Lake	Minnesota	15
" 16	2	Fairfield	Nebraska	39
" 23	154	Albany	New York	17
" 27	18	North Dixmont	Maine	22
Dec. 2	31	New Harbor	Maine	15
" 11	147	Yale	Illinois	24
" 13	25	Hudson	South Dakota	20
" 14	223	Roekland	New York	16
" 21	250	Pierpont	Michigan	22
" 25	227	Wappinger's Falls	New York	22
1900				
Jan. 4	140	Peru	Indiana	22
" 6	5	Artesian	South Dakota	20
" 12	17	Thomaston	Connecticut	18
" 24	223	Buffalo	New York	40
" 25	69	New York City.	New York	19
" 27	25	Bruceton Mills	W. Virginia	15
Feb. 1	403	Hoopeston	Illinois	29
" 1	19	Savannah	Georgia	17
" 3	108	Lexington	Illinois	34
" 12	8	Stowe	Vermont	18
" 12	6	Waterville	Vermont	16
" 26	10	Long Beach	California	19
Mar. 8		Everett	Washington	21
" 10	3	New York City	New York	21
" 12	21	San Diego	California	17
" 12		Bellevue	Ohio	45
" 16	69	Pembroke	Massachusetts	21
" 26	362	Rockville	Indiana	25
" 26	57	Madison	So. Dakota	24
" 26	1	Phœnix	Rhode Island	29

43 Camps. 1003 Members.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, July 28, 1900.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 2, SERIES 1900.

I. The P-W and C. for the current term has been forwarded to all Divisions which have reported for the quarter ending March 31, 1900.

II. The Quartermaster General has distributed the proceedings of the 18th Annual Encampment (Detroit) in accordance with the instructions of the Council-in-Chief.

III. Past Commanders Theo. A. Barton, of Rhode Island, and John R. Neeley, of Illinois, are hereby added to the committee on Fraternal relations to visit the G. A. R. encampment in Chicago the last week in August. This committee will enjoy the courtesy of the Military College committee, which will establish headquarters in Room 235, Palmer House, Chicago, and all members of the order and their friends (especially their fathers and mothers) are invited to visit these committees during the G. A. R. encampment. National headquarters of the W. R. C. will be established in Parlor W of the Palmer House and Sons of Veterans have been invited to call by the National President, Mrs. Harriet J. Bodge.

IV. Commanders of Divisions are again reminded that remittances to the Quartermaster General MUST be in the form of New York or Boston draft, Postal money order or express order, and that NO OTHER FORM WILL BE ACCEPTED.

V. Division Commanders are given until the 20th of August to forward their consolidated Adjutant's reports to these headquarters, but they must be in by that time. It is to be hoped that Commanders will make an extra effort to get in reports from the diliatory camps. New blank forms (37 and 38) have been issued by the Quartermaster General, and Division officers will use only these new forms hereafter in making reports.

VI. The Military College committee has met with wonderful success in advancing the interests of our great undertaking—our Military Memorial College, yet there is time to get in a few more pledges before the National encampment. Brothers who have not yet sent in their pledges of at least one dollar a year, should do so without delay.

VII. It is a satisfaction and a pleasure to announce, that one of the last acts of Congress before adjournment was the passing of a joint resolution, donating to the Sons of Veterans, a captured Spanish cannon from which the medals are to be made for those members of the Order who served in the Spanish-American war. It required nearly a year of persevering work to secure this donation, and special credit is due Judge Advocate General Johnson for his ceaseless labor in this matter. The medal will be of bronze, similar to the Past Division Commander's silver cross, with appropriate lettering on the reverse side. This medal will be known as the "Bronze war service cross," and only those

whose title to wear the same is unquestionably established, will be permitted to secure one. Each cross will be numbered and a certificate signed by the Commander-in-Chief under the seal of the Commandery, will accompany the decoration. Our law provides that the crosses "shall be carried in stock by the Quarter-Master General." The price of the cross including the certificate will be one dollar. Requisitions for crosses can be made by Division Commanders on the request of camps or individual members through the camp officers. It is recommended and urged that camps purchase these crosses for their respective members, entitled to receive them, and confer or present them upon some public occasion, inviting the G. A. R., W. R. C., L. A. S., and kindred societies to be present. The application for a cross must be accompanied by a certificate of the Army or Naval service of the applicant, authenticated by his commanding officer or other evidence of honorable service, and a statement from the commanding officer of the camp that the brother is at the time in good standing in the Order, and also by the price of the cross. Dropped and suspended members are not entitled to receive the cross, but any person otherwise entitled to the cross, may be permitted to secure one on acquiring membership in the Sons of Veterans.

VIII. The Order is reminded that the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief will be held in the city of Syracuse. N. Y., Sept. 11, 12 and 13. Headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief and Staff will be established at the Yates House. It is anticipated that this encampment will be very largely attended and the entertainment which our Syracuse brothers will provide will be all we can reasonably ask. The first session of the Encampment will open promptly at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 11th of September. The following hotel rates are given:

Yates House, (American plan) 1st and 2d floor $5 per day with bath.

1st and 2d floor $4 per day without bath.

3d, 4th aud 5th floors $4 with bath.

3d, 4th and 5th floors $3.50 without bath.

Discount of fifty cents per day where two occupy the same room.

The Globe, (American plan) $2.50, $3 and $3.50 per day.

The Vanderbilt, (American plan) $2.50 without bath, $3 and $3.50 with bath.

The Empire, (American plan) $2 per day.

The committee on transportation reports that Trunk Line Association and the New England Passenger Association have granted a fare and one-third rate round trip, and the Central and Western Associations will probably grant the same.

By command of

A. W. JONES,

Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

W. E. BALDWIN,

Adjutant General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
947 TREMONT BUILDING,
BOSTON, MASS., May 1, 1900.

GEN. A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief. S. V., U. S A.
Youngstown, Ohio.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have the honor to submit my report for the term commencing September 7, 1899 and ending March 31,

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

DR.		CR.	
Cash on hand as per last report	$1378 02	Paid for supplies incl'd'g cost of ship'g	$1308 58
Rec'd for supplies	1701 58	Office expenses	483 52
P. C. tax	2180 18	General expenses	624 25
Charter Fees	84 00	Traveling expenses	103 62
Expense fund Military College	84 15	Salaries	1700 00
Miscellaneous	3 56	General orders	67 00
		18th Encampment	631 54
		On acc't exp. fund Military college	73 75
		Miscellaneous	7 54
		Cash on hand	431 69
	$5431 49		$5431 49

March 31st, 1900 supplies on hand, as per inventory, $1439.26.

GENERAL ACCOUNT, MARCH 31, 1900.

ASSETS:		LIABILITIES:	
Furniture	$ 463 44	Various divisions	$ 29 70
Supplies	1439 26	Monument fund	20 00
Cash	431 69	Exp. fund mil. college	10 40
Various divisions	122 45	Surplus	2396 74
	$2456 84		$2456 84

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, MARCH 31, 1900.

LOSSES:		GAINS:	
General orders	$ 67 00	Charter fees	$ 84 00
Salaries	1700 00	Per capita tax	2180 18
Office expenses	483 52	Supplies (profit)	824 58
General expenses	624 25	Balance (net loss)	521 17
Traveling expenses	103 62		
18th Encampment	631 54		
	$3609 93		$3609 93

FRED E. BOLTON,
Quartermaster General.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 3, Series 1900. YOUNGSTOWN, 23, OHIO, Aug. 1900.

I. The members of the order are cautioned against one Samuel I. Miller, who represents himself to be a member of Camp 223, of Pottsville, Pa. He is an imposter.

II. The attention of Division Commanders is directed to Secs. 5 and 6, Art. XI, page 65, C. R. & R. and also to Sec. 3, Art. II, chapter V, page 51.

III. These headquarters and the offices of the Adjutant and Quarter-Master Generals will close August 25, and will open subject to the orders of the incoming Commander-in-Chief.

IV. The Council-in-Chief will convene at 8 o'clock p. m. Sept. 10, 1900, at the Yates House, Syracuse, N. Y., in the room of the chairman thereof, for the purpose of auditing the accounts of the Adjutant General and Quarter-Master General, and the transaction of such other business as may come before it.

V. It is quite evident that the Nineteenth Encampment to convene in Syracuse will prove not only a grand reunion, but one of the most important held by the order in several years, and every one should attend if possible. The Commander-in-Chief and party will leave Cleveland, O., via the L. S. & M. S., 3 p. m. Sept. 9, remaining over night in Buffalo, N. Y., with headquarters at the Iroquois. Will leave Buffalo Sept. 10, 8:10 a. m. via the N. Y. Central, arriving at Syracuse, 12:15 noon. Those who can so arrange it, are invited to join his party.

VI. Unless unexpected circumstances arise, this will be the closing order of this administration, and in surrendering command, the Commander-in-Chief desires to express his appreciation of the honor he has received and to return thanks for the courteous and kind treatment from each and all during the last year. By command of

Offical:

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

W. E. BALDWIN,
Adjutant General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,

947 TREMONT BUILDING,

BOSTON, MASS., July 20, 1900.

GEN. A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief. S. V., U. S A.
Youngstown, Ohio.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have the honor to submit my report for the quarter ending June 30, 1900:

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

DR.		CR.	
Cash on hand as per last report	$ 431 69	Paid for supplies incl'd'g cost of ship'g.	$ 668 91
Rec'd for supplies	1031 30	Office expenses	194 23
P. C. tax	1146 12	General expenses	86
Charter Fees	52 00	Traveling expenses	86 49
Expense fund Military College	19 67	Salaries	750 00
National Military College Fund	110 00	General orders	10 50
Miscelleanous	05	On acc't exp. fund Military college	26 00
		18th Encampment	391 85
		19th Encampment	11 00
		Miscellaneous	1 54
		Cash on hand	649 45
	$2790 83		$2790 83

June 30th, 1900, Supplies on hand, as per inventory, $1576.93.

GENERAL ACCOUNT, JUNE 30, 1900.

ASSETS:		LIABILITIES:	
Furniture	$ 463 44	Various divisions	$ 17 48
Supplies	1576 93	Monument fund	20 00
Cash	649 45	Exp. fund mil. college	4 07
Various divisions	156 78	National Military College Fund	110 00
		Surplus	2695 05
	$2846 60		$2846 60

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, JUNE 30, 1900.

LOSSES:		GAINS:	
General orders	$ 10 50	Charter fees	$ 52 00
Salaries	750 00	Per capita tax	1146 12
Office expenses	194 23	Supplies (profit)	545 12
General expenses	86		
Traveling expenses	86 49		
18th Encampment	391 85		
19th Encampment	11 00		
Balance (net gain)	298 31		
	$1743 24		$1743 24

FRED E. BOLTON,
Quartermaster General.

CHARTERS APPROVED.

Since last publication, application for charters have been approved and camps mustered as follows:

DATE. 1900	NO.	LOCATION.	DIVISION.	No. OF APPLICANTS.
Mar. 27.	404.	Albany	Illinois	22
Apr. 2.	24.	Wyatt	West Virginia	20
" 7.		Flora	Oregon	18
" 11.	290.	Peoria	Iowa	15
" 11.	15.	Rochester	New York	32
" 11.	72.	Shrewsbury	Massachusetts	22
" 16.	228.	North Tonawanda	New York	18
" 17.	33.	Peterboro	New Hampshire	17
" 20.	24.	Arroyo Grande	California	24
May 9.	4.	Danvers	Massachusetts	27
" 9.	405.	Jacksonville	Illinois	58
" 9.	406.	Roseville	Illinois	38
" 14.	1.	Prairie City	Missouri	18
" 15.	118.	Suffern	New York	20
" 15.	13.	Fair Haven	Vermont	17
" 26.	4.	Kenosha	Wisconsin	29
June 1.	3.	Brookings	South Dakota	17
" 2.	224.	Amsterdam	New York	36
" 4.		Lawrence	Nebraska	20
" 9.	50.	Lewistown	Illinois	47
" 11.	29.	Philadelphia	Pennsylvania	22
" 12.	2.	Arcola	Illinois	21
June 14.		Rockford	Washington	36
" 18.	31.	Southbridge	Massachusetts	24
" 20.	5.	Gibson City	Illinois	29
July 6.	16.	New Britian	Connecticut	29
" 12.	8.	Arthur	Illinois	28
" 12.	10.	Aledo	Illinois	22
" 12.	363.	Brazil	Indiana	21
" 12.	21.	Morgan City, La.	Gulf	18
" 12.	116.	Union City	Michigan	19
" 16.	32.	Braintree	Massachusetts	24
" 26.	11.	Wyoming	Illinois	25
" 26.	15.	Washington,	Illinois	18
Aug. 13.	12.	Hingham	Massachusetts	47

35 Camps. Applicants, 892

SPECIAL ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.
YOUNGSTOWN, O., Sept. 14, 1899

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 1.

The following designated member of the Order having been duly appointed Inspector-General on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, you are directed and authorized to install the same at such time and place as you and he may mutually agree upon, reporting your acts in compliance herewith to the Adjutant-General: Alf G. Lloyd of Camp No. 139, Sharpsburg, Division of Pennsylvania.

By command of A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

To Col. H. H. Rebele, Allegheny, Pa.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.
YOUNGSTOWN, O., Jan. 16, 1900.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 2.

I. Elmer Hardesty, Commander of the Division of Oregon, S.V., U.S.A., not being in good standing in the Order, having left the Division for an indefinite period, and having failed to make the required reports to these headquarters, he is hereby relieved from the command of said Division of Oregon.

II. Commander Hardesty having been relieved from the command of the Division of Oregon, Senior Vice-Commander George I. Butchers of Eugene, is hereby ordered to assume command of said Division, with full powers of a Division Commander. He is authorized to make such changes in the Division Staff as in his opinion the good of the Order requires, and this will be his authority for so doing.

By command of A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.
YOUNGSTOWN, O., Feb. 9, 1900.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 3.

The charter of the following named Camp is hereby annulled upon the recommendation of the Division Commander, it appearing that said Camp has failed to make reports and pay *per capita* tax for three quarters last passed. The Division Commander will proceed to secure the Camp and Division property, in accordance with the Constitution, Rules & Regulations of the Order,

issuing transfer cards to such members as may be in good standing on the records of the Camp, if any there be: Gen. I. S. Catlin Camp No. 3, Division of New York, located at Richford, N.Y.

By command of A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

To Col. Ralph Sheldon, Commanding Division of New York, S.V., U.S.A., Albany, N.Y.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.
YOUNGSTOWN, O., March 10, 1900.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 4.

I. For failure to file a bond and for gross neglect of all the duties of his office, C. W. Dale is hereby relieved from the command of the Division of the Gulf, S.V., U.S.A.

II. Edward Gross of New Orleans is hereby ordered on duty, and is authorized and empowered to assume the duties of the Commander of the Division of the Gulf, S.V., U.S A. He is empowered to make such changes in the Division Staff as the good of the Order requires.

III. C. W. Dale is ordered to turn over to Edward Gross all of the funds, books, records and the other property of the Division in his possession, making a full accounting since assuming command, to said Gross.

By command of A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.
YOUNGSTOWN, O., June 5, 1900.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 5.

The following named officer is hereby detailed to duty as Special Aide and Inspector for the Divisions of Oregon and Washington, S.V., U.S.A. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Division and Camp officers and members are requested to extend to him every courtesy and facility in the discharge of his duties.

He will report direct to the Adjutant-General: Past Commander Harry T. Moore of California.

By command of A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.
YOUNGSTOWN, O., July 6, 1900.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 6.

I It appearing that the Division of Oregon has practically disintegrated and become disbanded for the purpose of again creating a healthy Division, the following named officer is ordered on duty as Provisional Division Commander, with all the powers of a Commander to appoint and remove such Division Staff officers as the good of the Order may require. He will be respected and obeyed as such: Capt. C. B. Orai of Pine, Ore.

II. The recent Division officers of the Division of Oregon will forward to Commander Orai all the property of the Division in their possession, taking his receipt therefore. This Order to take effect from sight.

By command of A W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,
SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.
YOUNGSTOWN, O., July 30, 1900.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 7.

To Col. RALPH SHELDON,
Commanding Division of New York, S. V., U S A.

Greeting: —

WHEREAS: Charles H. E. Moran was elected Commander of the Division of New York, at the recent Seventeenth Annual Encampment, and was installed on the 28th day of June, 1900, but has failed to qualify by giving bond as required by the C., R. & R., and by thus failing to qualify, he has never succeeded to said office, and

WHEREAS: At the Sixteenth Annual Encampment of said Division of New York for 1899, you was elected, installed and qualified to serve for the term of one year or "until your successor was regularly elected, installed and qualified," it follows that you *are* and *will be* the Commander of said Division of New York, until a successor has been legally elected, installed and qualified.

Now Therefore: By virtue of the power and authority vested in me, as Commander-in-Chief of the S.V., U.S.A., I do hereby direct you as Commander of said Division of New York, to issue an order convening the Division Council of said Division of New York, in pursuance of Section 4, Article IV., and Section 7, Article V., Chapter III. (Division Constitution), C., R & R., for the election of a Commander of said Division of New York, and this will be your authority for so doing.

ASAHEL W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:
G. B. ABBOTT,
Acting Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR LETTERS.

DEPARTMENT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF,

SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.

MT. VERNON, N.Y., Jan. 1, 1900.

CIRCULAR NO. 2.
1900.

MY DEAR BROTHERS: "Union Defenders' Day,"—"Lincoln Day"—and in a very peculiar, but still extremely befitting sense, "Sons of Veterans' Day," again demands the attention of our Order.

Those sacred seasons which have been set apart and dedicated by the Sons of Veterans and kindred organizations for the purpose of special observance, should be considered not simply as holidays, but most sincerely as holy days. We earnestly hope and pray that every Brother in our society may be constrained to render unto these days and to memories and instructions of these days that degree of respect and reverence which they so well deserve. Especially may this be true in reference to the particular day to which this letter calls your attention. Special observation of February 12, the anniversary of the birth of America's greatest son, Abraham Lincoln, had its beginning in the Order of Sons of Veterans. Hence there rests upon us, more than on any other, the sacred responsibility of seeing that the day is properly observed.

But why this celebration? Why these great demonstrations? Why call into action the rank and file of our organization for this occasion? What means the day and what is its object? In the name that we have given it and the associations that cluster about it you can find the answers to the questions. But in a fuller, clearer response let me suggest a few thoughts.

First. Our notice and demonstration is a memorial to the greatest man to whom this land has given birth. We cannot add to his honor or glory by such a memorial, but we can most certainly win for ourselves much good by appropriating the day in part for the purpose of studying the life and character of "The First American." His was a noble life and he was a noble man, a Christian gentleman, possessed of unbounded faith in the Supreme Providence, of deep-seated confidence in mankind and of an unfaltering belief in the final success of the right. He was a man of fine parts sublimely knit together, the whole composing a life of such magnificence as to place it on a plane which is reached by few. A character, the study of which is worth the time and attention of the busiest student. A life, the emulation of which is indeed to be commended.

Second. By it we commemorate the mighty deeds, the lofty examples, the sterling worth and the laudable self-sacrifice of the men who offered themselves on the altar of love during that trying period of our nation's life, 1861–1865. Far be it from us to fail to remember the heroes, living or dead, who willingly threw themselves into the terrible struggle in order to sustain the honor, unity and integrity of our country, or that we should hesitate to appreciate all that their example and their deeds have done for us. Nay, nay; we enumerate their names, their deeds and their worth on an imperishable scroll and in immortal letters, and raise the record to a place of prominence so that even "he who runs may read."

Third. But above all we give this day special recognition, in order that we may have untrammeled and unburdened opportunity to study in theory, in history and in prophecy those sublime principles which have made our country the mightiest nation on the face of the earth. Patriotism, liberty, union and the lesser lights which hover about these, have been the guiding stars in the onward

movement of our beloved country, and it was fidelity to these elements that made Abraham Lincoln and his co-laborers the valuable men they were. And it was undying love for these principles that has immortalized their names and records.

Brothers, let us cleave to the old paths and by the proper use of these special days in our calendar let us impress more clearly in our own minds and hearts and instill more definitely into the minds and hearts of those about us the great truths and ends for which we stand.

Feb. 12, 1900, falls on Monday. Wherever practicable we would suggest that arrangements be made with one of your local churches to hold a religious service on the Sunday evening preceding. As a rule you will find the clergymen of all denominations ready to co-operate with you. Let the Brothers attend the religious service in a body. God has wonderfully blessed and preserved our nation, and we who stand for the integrity of the land should be the first to recognize the Providence of the Almighty and in a public and united way render praise and thanksgiving to Him for His munificence.

On Monday let appropriate patriotic exercises be held. We would advise that in cities Camps unite for the purpose of large demonstration. Counties might find the same plan practical and helpful. Let your programs be full, interesting and instructive. See that the name of at least one member of our Order be found among those who are to take prominent part in the exercises. In this way we will help to develop some of the high talent that now lies dormant.

One subject which we are likely to forget or overlook ought certainly to have a place on the program and a part in your meeting. I refer to our proposed "National Military College." The original thought of this college had its birth in patriotism; its foundation will be in patriotism, its support from patriotism — the result of its work will be increased patriotism in the land. It is proper to give this movement place in the Lincoln Day exercises, for in common parlance the institution will be known as Lincoln College.

We have written to you at length — the issue is in your hands — the trust is yours. We sincerely hope that under Providence you may each have a part in making "Union Defenders' Day" in 1900 a source of continual blessing to our Order, yea, more than that — to our land. I remain,

Yours in F., C. and L.,

REV. JOHN E. ZEITER,
Chaplain-in-Chief.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Jan. 3, 1900.

Approved.

In connection with the observation on "Union Defenders' Day," each Camp and each individual Brother is urged to make some offering, be it ever so small, for the founding of our Military College.

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Official:

W. E. BALDWIN,
Adjutant-General.

[ONE COPY TO BE GIVEN EACH DIVISION AND CAMP CHAPLAIN.]

DEPARTMENT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

CIRCULAR No. 3

MT. VERNON, N. Y., April 22nd, 1900

To the Division and Camp Chaplains of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.:

MY DEAR BROTHERS:—The honor attached to the office into which you and I have been installed is indeed one to be appreciated, but we must not allow our sense of appreciation to hide from our view the weight of responsibility which accompanies the honor.

Our Divisions and our Camps have not, for the most part, reached the highest standard attainable, nor can they be expected to do so until every integral part of the organization shall have reached the highest level possible. All officers are chiefly interested in the department with which they are connected. To you and me the department of the Chaplaincy should present itself as the most important section of our organization. To its work we ought to give our time, efforts and energy. Many of the evils which infest and beset our order can be overthrown if we are true to our trust.

Not every man is competent to fill the Chaplain's chair. It is not sufficient that a man be possessed of enough intellectual ability to enable him to commit to memory and deliver the ritualistic work that falls to the Chaplain—almost any brother has this power. A brother who aspires to the Chaplaincy should be a man of clean life, pure thoughts, and one given to prayer. Brothers, we have been ushered into what I consider a holy office. Your relation to the members of your Division or Camp is in some sense similar to that which a clergyman sustains to his church members. In your Division or Camp you are the representative of the Supreme Ruler. I fear we don't always remember this. If we lack the qualifications which the office demands, we ought to do one of two things—qualify or resign; for only when we are prepared for battle have we license to look for victory.

The C. R. and R. but partly define the duties of a Chaplain. When you have obeyed the specified demands, you ought to look around for some other work to do—there is plenty of work which needs your attention. As you have opportunity, we would suggest that you lay stress on the following topics and do what you can to bring about a better condition of affairs along these lines:

1. Teach the brothers to respect their uniforms. As men they are free to speak and act as they choose, but when dressed in the uniform of the Sons of Veterans, and wearing our badge, they are under obligations to our order and to every member thereof.

2. Instruct the brothers as to the desirability of having the Camp rooms properly located. Too many Camps have headquarters in questionable places. The location of a meeting room often determines the success of a Camp, and not infrequently the character of the membership.

3. Use your influence to keep the membership "clean." Oppose the mustering in of men who will be a disgrace to the order. We ought to be more interested in the "quality" of our members than any other men in our order. Camps have been destroyed and obliged to surrender their charters simply because the "obnoxious" elements rushed in were too weighty for them to carry.

My dear Chaplains, if we are faithful and sincere in the performance of our work, we can do more for the Sons of Veterans than any other department in the organization. Let us work hand in hand, shoulder to shoulder. I shall be glad to hear from all Chaplains, and shall welcome any suggestions that will tend to make the work of this department more efficient.

Fraternally yours in F., C. and L.,

JOHN E. ZEITER,
Chaplain-in-Chief

Approved:

A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U. S. A.

[TO BE READ IN CAMP, AND ONE COPY PLACED ON FILE.]

DEPARTMENT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF

SONS OF VETERANS, U. S. A.

CIRCULAR No. 4

MT. VERNON, N. Y., May 1st, 1900.

DEAR BROTHERS AND COMRADES:—With a spirit of deepest respect and sincere reverence we approach the yearly monumental epoch of American patriotism—Memorial Day.

We note, with regret, the apparent indifference with which the people of our land greet this sacred day, and earnestly hope that the time is not far hence when a baptism of appreciation for the labors and sacrifices of the Saviors of our Nation shall come upon every individual who lives under the Stars and Stripes.

Memorial Day has lost much of its influence and its power as a commemorating force is fast slipping away. Carelessness on the part of those who are naturally its defenders has had much to do in bringing about this state of affairs. However we cannot afford to spend time speculating as to causes or casting reflections. We must deal with conditions as we find them. The question of moment, the problem to be solved is—How shall we gain lost ground? How shall we rescue the day from its perilous position in the mind of the American public?

This is a matter that should interest us as members of the organization of Sons of Veterans. We are ordained leaders—ordained by the blood of our fathers—to awaken the dormant feeling of the land and to guide the Israel of American patriotism from the "house of bondage" through the wilderness into the "land of loyalty." My brothers, we can't afford to fall short of this high calling, *and we must not.* If you will continually remember what Memorial Day signifies; if you will labor to support your understanding and work out your convictions; if you will earnestly and actively consecrate yourselves to the support of the noble principles which Memorial Day commemorates, you will become powerful agents for giving thoughts on patriotism the place they deserve in the public mind; for winning for the memory of the defenders and preservers of our nation the homage that is due, and potent factors for the salvation of the *holy day.* There is no more decisive way of winning people to our cause by demonstrating to them by our words and actions that we believe in and honor it.

It is hoped that every Son of a Veteran will be found in *his place* on Memorial Day. Let every camp and every member thereof gather in memorial service. Unite with the G. A. R. and other patriotic organizations who aim to celebrate the day and let the demonstrations be of a type and character that will win the respect, approbation and admiration of all worthy citizens. My brothers, do not forget that much depends on the individual, therefore let every brother guard himself—let your conduct be above reproach, of a kind that will be an honor to your camp and order.

March to the cemeteries and place tokens of love and esteem on the graves of those whose memory the day revives, at the same time failing not to remember, in spirit honor, those whose bodies sleep in unknown and unmarked places and graves—perchance far from all earthly friends.

Go to the aged, infirm veterans, the more so if they suffer under the burdens of life—to their widows and orphans—and others of their relatives who need you, carrying to them words of cheer and comfort and supplying their temporal needs.

Remember the God of Grace who has never ceased to prosper these United States, and give Him the service, worship and praise which are His by right. If we are foremost among nations, it is because of His providence. Remember this, and while we honor those on earth who are deserving of our praise and admiration, do not fail to honor Him who is the giver of every good and perfect gift.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Yours in F., C. and L.,

JOHN E. ZEITER,
Chaplain-in-Chief.

Approved:
A. W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief S. V., U. S. A.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION.

(Circular No. 5.)

Gen. A. W. Jones,
Commander-in-Chief.

The committee to arrange for transportation to the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., beg leave to report that their application for reduced rates has been favorably acted upon by the following railway associations, and that all officers, delegates and friends, of both the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., and the Ladies' Aid Society, attending the meeting of either organization at Syracuse, N.Y., September 11, 12 and 13, are entitled to the advantages thereof, in accordance with the rules of said railway associations. The rate applies over the territory named hereafter: —

TRUNK LINE ASSOCIATION.

Territory — From Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Dunkirk and Salamanca, N.Y., Erie and Pittsburg, Pa., Bellaire, O., Wheeling, Parkersburg and Huntington, W. Va., and points east thereof, except in New England.

Rate — One fare and one-third. Certificate plan.

CENTRAL PASSENGER ASSOCIATION.

Territory — From Buffalo, Pittsburg and Parkersburg, W. Va., on the east to Chicago and St. Louis on the west.

Rate — One fare and one third. Certificate plan.

WESTERN PASSENGER ASSOCIATION.

Territory — West of Chicago and St. Louis.

Rate — One fare and one-third. Certificate plan.

NEW ENGLAND PASSENGER ASSOCIATION.

Territory — East of New York State and Lake Champlain.

Rate — One fare and one-third.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

For the benefit and guidance of those procuring tickets the following is published: —

1. Tickets are purchased at full fare going, and may be secured, not earlier than September 7, and not later than September 12. Be sure that, when purchasing your going ticket, you request a certificate. (DO NOT MAKE THE MISTAKE OF ASKING FOR A RECEIPT.)

2. Present yourself at the station for purchase of ticket and certificate at least thirty minutes before departure of train. This will allow time for making out of certificate. Make inquiry some day in advance of your leaving, to ascertain if through tickets to Syracuse, N.Y., are kept at your station. If not, try to arrange to have them secured for you, or in the event they are not obtainable locally, find out at what station *en route* they can be obtained, write to agent at that station stating you will want ticket and certificate, purchase a local ticket from your home thence, and secure your ticket for the balance of the trip at that point.

3. On arrival at the Encampment, AT ONCE present your certificate to your Division Commander, or the Quartermaster-General. A special agent, representing the associations granting the reduced rate, will be present on September 12, to validate certificates. All certificates must be viseed on that date to enable the owner to secure reduced rates returning. If you leave for home prior to September 12, or arrive later than that date, your certificate cannot be validated. It is therefore important that special attention be paid to this matter and that certificates are placed in the hands of the proper officer on the date named.

4. After certificates have been found correct and validated, present them at the ticket office of the same railroad over which the going journey was made, and upon payment of one-third of the amount of regular fare, returning ticket will be issued.

Certificates entitle the holder to remain at the place of meeting three (3) days after close of Encampment, or until September 17, when continuous passage to destination must be made.

5. Certificates are not transferable, must be signed by purchaser when going ticket is issued, and signed again when returning ticket is secured. Without the signatures also of the Quartermaster-General, and Special Agent of the railway associations, certificates are worthless, therefore do not either lose, transfer, misplace or change certificate in any manner.

Failure to procure certificate will mean a loss of the privilege of reduced rates, and payment of full fare on the returning trip.

FRED E. BOLTON,
R. M. J. REED,
E. W. ESTES,
W. T. CHURCH,
E. H. ARCHER,
Committee on Transportation.

Approved:

A. W. JONES, Commander-in-Chief.

Attest:

W. E. BALDWIN, Adjutant-General.

The Commander-in-Chief: You will listen to the report of the Quartermaster-General.

Quartermaster-General Bolton read his report as follows: —

REPORT OF QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

Gen. A. W. Jones, *Commander-in-Chief.*

Sir: I have the honor to submit herewith a report of the business transactions of this Department for the term ending Aug. 31, 1900.

Report Supplemental to Report to Eighteenth Annual Encampment.

Cash on hand, as shown by report	$1,378 02	
Received for *per capita* tax	5 62	
" " charter fees	6 00	
" " miscellaneous	2 65	
		$1,392 29
Paid for office expenses	17 48	
" " general expenses	7 25	
" " salaries	200 00	
" " expenses Eighteenth Annual Encampment	612 14	
		836 87
Cash on hand at beginning of administration		555 42

Receipts and Expenditures from Sept. 14, 1899, to Aug. 31, 1900.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand at beginning of administration		$555 42	
Received for supplies	$3,406 80		
" " *per capita* tax	4,351 32		
" " charter fees	166 00		
" " expense fund Military College Committee	103 82		
" " National Military College fund	110 00		
" " miscellaneous	1 26		
		$8,139 20	
Total cash receipts			$8,694 62

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment in addition to those paid by the preceding administration: —			
W. S. Garber	$19 40		
Proceedings	391 85		
		$411 25	
Travelling expenses:			
Commander-in-Chief	$14 50		
Acting Adjutant-General	129 47		
Quartermaster-General	46 14		
		190 11	
Amounts carried forward		$601 36	$8,694 62

Amounts brought forward		$601 36	$8,694 62
Supplies:			
Badges and decorations	$1,396 88		
Camp and Division supplies	649 98		
Cost of shipping	96 62		
Insurance	16 20		
Wrapping paper, etc.	4 60		
		2,164 28	
Office expenses:			
Rent, Commandery	$140 00		
" Quartermaster-General	369 62		
Light and toilet supplies, Q.M.-General	23 46		
Telegrams and express, Commandery	30 22		
" " " Q.M.-General	4 27		
Postage, Commandery	130 99		
" Q.M.-General	27 00		
Stationery, all National Officers	49 60		
" Commandery	27 20		
" Q.M.-General	10 50		
		$812 86	
General expenses:			
Moving Commandery Headquarters	$43 91		
"Roll of Honor"	492 06		
Gold Star, Commander-in-Chief	150 00		
" " Past Commander-in-Chief R. M. J. Reed	50 00		
Instructions to Assistant Inspectors, and Spanish-American War Service Blanks.	21 18		
Freight and teaming, bronze cannon	10 59		
Financial relation blanks	8 96		
Password and countersign	2 00		
Miscellaneous	1 75		
		$780 45	
Salaries		2,875 00	
General Orders		139 50	
Expense Fund Military College Committee		99 75	
Nineteenth Annual Encampment		11 00	
Miscellaneous		10 75	
Total expenditures			$7,494 95
Balance cash on hand			1,199 67
Supplies on hand, inventoried at cost			$1,363 30

The financial condition of the Commandery-in-Chief on Aug. 23, 1899, was as follows: —

General Account Aug. 23, 1899.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Dr.		*Cr.*	
Furniture	$463 44	Due to Divisions	$30 91
Supplies	1,119 82	Monument Fund	20 00
Cash	1,378 02	Surplus	2,917 91
Due from Divisions	7 54		
	$2,968 82		$2,968 82

The financial condition of the Commandery-in-Chief at the close of business Aug. 31, 1900, is as follows: —

General Account, Aug. 31, 1900.

ASSETS. Dr.		LIABILITIES. Cr.	
Furniture	$417 10	Due to Divisions	$17 32
Supplies	1,363 30	Monument Fund	20 00
Cash	1,199 67	Expense Fund, Military College Committee	4 07
Due from Divisions	10 65	National Military College Fund	110 00
		Surplus	2,839 33
	$2,990 72		$2,990 72

The account of Profit and Loss from Sept. 14, 1899, to Aug. 31, 1900, is as follows: —

Profit and Loss, Sept. 14, 1899, to Aug. 31, 1900.

LOSSES.		GAINS.	
Furniture (10% reduction)	$46 34	† *Per Capita* tax	$4,362 48
* Supplies	71 10	Charter fees	166 00
Salaries	2,875 00	Supplies	1,555 80
General Orders	139 50		
Travelling expenses	190 11		
Office expenses	812 86		
General expenses	780 45		
Eighteenth Encampment	411 25		
Nineteenth Encampment	11 00		
Balance (net gain)	746 67		
	$6,084 28		$6,084 28

* Of this amount $60.98 on account of obsolete forms, free exchange and supplies furnished Commandery.

† Of this amount $11.16 account credit Oregon Division, voted by Seventeenth Encampment.

A comparison of these figures, with those presented in the report of last year, bring out these interesting facts. This year the total cash receipts are less by $193.45; the total expenditures have also been less to the amount of $350.56.

A decrease of $517.49 is shown in the receipts for *per capita* tax and of $20.00 for charter fees. The natural result has been in the reduction of the balance of cash on hand, the amount being $1,199.67 as compared to $1,378.08 last year, a difference of $178.35.

The losses are directly attributable to the falling off in the income for *per capita* tax, and were it not for the gains made in this department, the financial showing would be even less favorable.

The profits from the sale of supplies for this term are greater by $849.68 than those of last year, and at the same time we show a stock on hand valued at $243.48 more than at that time.

This is satisfactory, and but serves to demonstrate the wisdom of the last Encampment in placing all supplies under the direct control of the organization, thereby gaining new sources of revenue.

Arrangements have been made with the National officers of the Ladies' Aid Society, whereby the Commandery now furnishes to that organization its particular badges and decorations, at a price considerably less than they have heretofore paid, and a small profit to the Commandery.

The special decoration for brothers serving in the Spanish-American war has been prepared, and officially designated as the Bronze Service-Cross. The badge is made of metal from a captured Spanish cannon donated by Act of Congress. An engraved certificate of suitable design has also been prepared to accompany the badge, and together, their possession by our brave brothers will be a pleasing reminder both of faithful service rendered to their country, and of the pride of the Order in them individually, made manifest by this distinct and honorable decoration, the wearing of which is confined exclusively to those rendering service in time of war.

Divisions are indebted in the following amounts: Gulf, $6.87; Oregon, $3.77.

The following Divisions have balances to their credit: Alabama and Tennessee, $0.15; Colorado, $1.52; Connecticut, $0.62; Illinois, $1.55; Iowa, $1.05; Maine, $0.73; Michigan, $0.75; Minnesota, $0.45; Missouri, $0.27; Nebraska, $0.52; New Hampshire, $0.17; Ohio, $3.02; Pennsylvania, $5.00; Rhode Island, $0.17; Washington, $0.12; West Virginia, $0.01; Wisconsin, $1.22.

At the date of this report the Divisions of the Gulf and Washington are in arrears, for *per capita* tax, for the quarter ending June 30, 1900.

Bonds, duly approved by the Commander-in-Chief, have been received and filed, from the Commanders of all Divisions, with the exception of Colorado, Gulf and Oregon.

In accordance with the authorization of the Eighteenth Encampment voluntary contributions have been received and placed to the credit of the Expense Fund of the National Military College Committee. Disbursements have been made when sanctioned by the Chairman of the Committee. An accounting of this fund is hereby given: —

Statement of Receipts and Expenditures, in connection with the Expense Fund of the National Military College Committee.

Dr.

Paid:		
The Banner	$50 00	
Printing:		
Wm. G. Dustin	18 00	
Times-Herald } *Globe-Gazette* }	17 75	
Travel:		
John E. Zeiter	14 00	
Cash on hand	4 07	
		$103 82

Cr.

Received by contributions from:		
R. M. Smith	$ 50	
O. R. Stevens	2 00	
Hon. J. M. Thurston	1 00	
Camp Hartford, Conn.	2 00	
" 114, Mason City, Iowa	5 95	
" 90, Fall River, Mass.	1 00	
" 100, Chicago, Ill.	10 00	
" 27, Creston, O.	1 00	
" 30, Terre Haute, Ill.	1 00	
" 57, Kankakee, Ill.	2 00	
" 105, Lincoln, Ill.	1 00	
" 70, Dixon, Ill.	1 00	
Mass. Division Encampment	37 20	
Camp 15, Colorado Springs, Col.	10 00	
" 400, Freeport, Ill.	1 00	
" 224, Duncansville, Pa.	1 00	
" 17, Brockton, Mass.	3 00	
" 40, Ithaca, N.Y.	3 50	
" 65, Athol, Mass.	1 75	
Illinois Division Encampment	17 92	
		$103 82

Attention is respectfully directed to the item of $110.00 credited to the National Military College Fund, which originated from contributions of $100.00 received from the Department of Illinois, Woman's Relief Corps, through the Illinois Division, and of $10.00 from Past Division Commander J. Howard Heine of the Nebraska Division.

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the courtesies and kindness extended to me by all officers of the Commandery and the several Divisions. No controversy or friction has arisen, making the year one of pleasurable service and typical of the true fraternity of our grand organization.

I am especially obligated to our distinguished Commander-in-Chief and to General Abbott for their kindly encouragement and generous friendship.

To Assistant Quartermaster-General Hannon my score of indebtedness, already large, has been increased by his faithful and valuable services.

Respectfully submitted,

FRED E. BOLTON,
Quartermaster-General.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports without debate.

ADDENDA. The Military College Committee received and expended, in addition to the amounts accounted for by the Quartermaster-General in the above statement relative to the "Expenses Fund," the

following sums, which are given herewith that proper mention may be made of the contributors: —

Supplemental Statement of Receipts and Expenditures in connection with the Expense Fund of the National Military College Committee, received and expended by the Committee in addition to the amounts reported by the Quartermaster-General.

Dr.

Printing and Advertising:		
Wm. G. Dustin, acct. *The Banner*, and printing	$63 00	
H. E. Cowdin	20 00	
Will A. Brown	20 00	
Mason City *Republican*	16 25	
Travel:		
G. B. Abbott	35 00	
Wm. T. Church	28 00	
Stenographer and postage	33 68	
		$215 93

Cr.

Received by contributions from:		
By transfer of contributions of Woman's Relief Corps of the Department of Illinois, from the College Fund to the Expense Fund	$100 00	
Michigan Division	44 08	
Pennsylvania Division	32 85	
Iowa Division	21 00	
A. L. Sortor, Jr.	10 00	
New York Division	8 00	
		215 93

(Approved) A. L. SORTOR, Jr., *Chairman.*

The Commander-in-Chief: General Abbott will read the report of the Inspector-General.

The report of Inspector-General Loyd was then read by General Abbott, as follows: —

REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

Sharpsburg, Pa., Sept. 10, 1900.

W. E. Baldwin,
Adjutant-General, S. V., U.S.A.

Sir: I have the honor to submit my report as Inspector-General for the present term.

Upon assuming the duties of office I was requested by the Commander-in-Chief to prepare and submit a new form for the Inspection blank, and in connection with this work I sent out at once a Circular Letter, addressed to each Division Commander and to a number of the active members of the Order, asking for advice and suggestions relative to the new form. I regret to say that the replies received to this letter were very few in number, and to those who did reply I desire to express my thanks.

As the time for the preparation of the new blank was limited, I was unable to give the work the consideration it merited. On Sept.

25, 1899, I submitted to the Commander-in-Chief five different forms, and after careful consideration, and with the advice and counsel of Gen. G. B. Abbott, it was decided to adopt the present form. On Oct. 5, 1899, the proofs of this form were returned to the printer, and if there was any cause for delay in the inspections it was not the fault of this Department.

The most important feature of the new blank, in our estimation, is, that it makes no distinction in the ranking questions between equipped and uniformed Camps, and Camps that are not equipped. With the present blank every Camp in the Order has an equal chance to secure a good rating.

In this blank thirty-five per cent is given to ritualistic work; thirty-five per cent to the clerical work and records of the Camp; fifteen per cent to its patriotic work; ten per cent to its equipment; and five per cent to attendance at inspection.

A new question concerning the patriotic work of the Camp was added, namely, Question 12: "Does the Camp hold patriotic meetings monthly?" and the object of this question was to call the attention of the Camps to the constitutional requirements concerning patriotic meetings, and to stir up interest in a feature of our work that had been much neglected.

In the Circular of Instructions issued to Division and Assistant Inspectors a full explanation of the new form was given, and explanatory details regarding the markings were included. Two additional Circular Letters were sent to each Division Inspector, and two Circular Letters to each Assistant Inspector-General.

An immense amount of correspondence was necessary in the conduct of this Department, and we desire to state that every letter received was promptly answered and all reports acknowledged.

One of the most discouraging features of our work was the fact that many Division Commanders and Inspectors failed to reply or in any way notice the courteous letters sent them, and in a number of Divisions we have not been able to hear from the Division Inspectors in any way.

SPANISH WAR RECORDS.

In connection with the inspection an effort was made to obtain a correct and complete list of the members of the Order who served in the Spanish-American War, and in most of the Divisions the results were very satisfactory. The most complete and satisfactory report on this subject was received from the Division of California. The Divisions of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan paid but little attention to this request, and their reports on this important feature are very incomplete. The Division of New York failed to render any report on this subject.

INSPECTION OF DIVISION HEADQUARTERS.

In the appointment of Assistant Inspectors-General we depended largely upon the advice of Gen. G B. Abbott, whose experience and acquaintance with the Order at large is responsible for the satisfactory

results of this feature of our work. The Assistant Inspectors-General in all cases performed their duty in a conscientious and able manner, and the thanks of the Order are due them for the personal and pecuniary sacrifices they made in carrying out their part of the work.

The headquarters of the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General were not inspected as it was deemed advisable not to incur any expense for this purpose.

Some of the Divisions have failed to comply with the Constitution in several particulars, and we trust that the incoming administration will see that these faults are at once corrected. In exhibit "A" attached to this report, we give a complete consolidation of the reports of the Assistant Inspectors-General in tabulated form, and we desire to call your attention to the following statistics as matters of general interest: —

There are twenty-nine Divisions in the Order and the headquarters of every Division was inspected. The following Divisions have no By-Laws: Iowa, Colorado, Kansas, Oregon, Wisconsin and the Gulf. The following Divisions have no record of proceedings of the Council and of Division Encampments: Michigan, Kansas, Kentucky and the Gulf.

The Divisions of Kansas and the Gulf have no register of members.

The Division of the Gulf has no roster of officers.

The Division of Oregon has no record of dispensations issued.

The Division of Kansas does not keep an Adjutant's cash book.

The Divisions of Massachusetts and the Gulf have no cash book.

The following Divisions do not keep a ledger: Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Gulf.

The Quartermaster does not keep an account with Camps in the Divisions of Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Gulf.

The following Divisions have failed to forward reports: Oregon, West Virginia and the Gulf.

Division accounts are not accurately kept in the Division of the Gulf.

The following Divisions are in debt for the amounts stated: South Dakota, $35.00; Iowa, $75.00; Indiana, $250.00; Michigan, $110.00; Kansas, $263.46; Oregon, $37.90; Missouri, $152.60; West Virginia, $5.25. Total debt of all Divisions, $929.21.

The total amount in the Division treasuries is $2,839.27. Average, $97.90.

The total value of supplies on hand is $1,249.89. These supplies are all of current issue.

The Division Commander of Minnesota is bonded for $500.00. The Division Commanders of South Dakota, Colorado and Wisconsin are bonded for $1,000.00. The following Division Commanders have not given bond: Kentucky, California, Oregon, Washington and the Gulf. The other Division Commanders are legally bonded.

The Division Quartermasters of South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin have given bond for $500.00. In the following Divisions the Quartermasters have given no bond: Kentucky, Oregon, West Virginia and the Gulf. The Quartermasters of all other Divisions have given a legal bond as required by the C., R. & R.

Division Quartermasters and Adjutants are paid salaries in twenty Divisions. In nine Divisions no salaries are paid these officers.

27,105 members are reported in good standing in the various Divisions. The following Divisions are so weak numerically that it might be advisable to effect their consolidation with other adjacent Divisions: Alabama and Tennessee, 135 members; Colorado, 68 members; Kentucky, 78 members; Oregon, 106 members; West Virginia, 168 members; and the Gulf, 125 members.

There are 945 Camps in the Order, and the average membership is $28\frac{2}{3}$.

The statistics relative to the number of Camps organized and disbanded are not given from many Divisions owing to the records being lost or imperfectly kept.

There were 292 Camps suspended during the past year, which is about thirty per cent of the entire number of Camps in the Order.

Eighteen Divisions have rendered some service to the Grand Army of the Republic during the past year, and eleven Divisions have not done so.

Field days were held by the Divisions of New Hampshire and Minnesota.

Correspondence is not promptly attended to in the Divisions of Oregon and the Gulf.

The General Orders of the Commandery-in-Chief are promptly forwarded to Camps in all Divisions.

Camp requisitions are not promptly filled in the Division of the Gulf.

Division Commanders do not correspond with or issue circulars of information to G.A.R. Posts in the Divisions of Iowa, Alabama and Tennessee, Kansas, Nebraska and the Gulf.

The Grand Army of the Republic is in sympathy with the Order in all Divisions except South Dakota and Indiana.

The Ladies Aid Society is established as an organization in seventeen Divisions, and in all cases it is of advantage to the Order. This Society is not established in twelve Divisions.

The military feature predominates in eleven Divisions, and the social feature in eighteen Divisions.

The average charter fee is $17.00.

The total cost of the inspection of Division headquarters was $71.46, an average of $2.46½ for each Division.

Seventeen of the Assistant Inspectors-General made no charge for their services or expenses.

The reports of the Assistant Inspectors-General furnish the following additional information of the condition of the Order.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

"The officers are working under difficulties. Colonel Morris took command with a debt of nearly $100 and with only about 145 members in good standing, but they are working hard and deserve commendation."

(SIGNED) Z C. GREEN,
Assistant Inspector-General.

IOWA.

"I find a shrinkage of membership from about 2,000 in 1896 to 490 at this time and believe that a large portion of this is due to the Spanish-American war, but that equally as large a loss is chargeable to the failure of sentiment alone to appeal to the practical nature of man."

(SIGNED) A. L. SORTOR, JR ,
Assistant Inspector-General.

NEW JERSEY.

"I desire especially to commend the Division Adjutant and Quartermaster for the systematic and careful manner of conducting the business of their respective departments. The records are all complete and well kept and the business of the Division is promptly attended to. No fault or errors of any kind could be detected."

(SIGNED) JOHN E. SAUTTER,
Assistant Inspector-General.

ILLINOIS.

"The Division is in excellent condition. The record card system has recently been adopted, and will prove of much practical benefit. The G.A.R., W.R.C. and L.A.S. are on excellent terms with the Sons of Veterans and they meet together in State Encampments with the best results."

(SIGNED) WM. G. DUSTIN,
Assistant Inspector-General.

INDIANA.

"The affairs of this Division have been badly managed for several years but present Commander and Staff are to be commended for their efforts to build up the Division and correct the errors of past administrations The outlook at present is promising." (SIGNED) ALFRED G. LOYD,
Inspector-General.

RHODE ISLAND.

"Commander Carpenter and officers and staff, are devoted to the interests of the Order and Division. The Division headquarters are conveniently located in the center of the city and are open evenings to members of the Order and the visitor's book shows many visits by members. The books of the Division are in excellent condition." (SIGNED) GEO E. COX,
Assistant Inspector-General.

KANSAS.

"It is thought advisable to suggest that a book for the records of the proceedings of the Division Council and one for the proceedings of Division Encampments be prepared by inserting all that is now on manuscript and which are not a permanent record. We recommend that a roll of members of the Division be prepared at once. The officers of the Division have been much handicapped by being in separate towns, and the business of the Division has been retarded for the same reason." (SIGNED) H. M. LEWIS,
Assistant Inspector-General.

NEW YORK.

"The Commander is allowed $400 for organization purposes. The early records of the Division were destroyed by fire. The Division is in excellent condition, the books and records are splendidly kept and the Headquarters are up to date in every respect " (SIGNED) W. B. MCNULTY,
Assistant Inspector-General.

KENTUCKY.

"As there are only five Camps in good standing in the Division, the duties of the Adjutant and Quartermaster are not very burdensome and the books are therefore exact and correct. The bond of the Division Commander was not satisfactory and he has made no effort to procure a new one "

(SIGNED) A E. B. STEPHENS,
Assistant Inspector-General.

MASSACHUSETTS.

"The Headquarters of the Massachusetts Division are conducted in a thoroughly business way. I found all the records in excellent shape and showing evidence of care and attention. The dormitory of the Soldiers' Home at Chelsea is in excellent condition." (SIGNED) ARTHUR B. SPINK,
Assistant Inspector-General.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"It is with pleasure I can report that the books and documents at Division Headquarters are in a most excellent condition. The prospects of the New Hampshire Division are particularly bright and every member should take courage and pledge himself anew to loyal work."
(SIGNED) GEORGE E. LEIGHTON,
Assistant Inspector-General.

MINNESOTA.

"I find the books of the Division in splendid condition and the work up to date. The register of members has not been kept up since 1897. No account is kept with each Camp, as business is done on a strictly cash basis."
(SIGNED) GEORGE T. DRAKE,
Assistant Inspector-General.

CONNECTICUT.

"This inspection finds the Headquarters of the Connecticut Division in good condition. The work is conducted with marked attention to details. Correspondence, the filling of requisitions for supplies, and the handling of all financial matters have received prompt attention. All books, records and papers were found to be in satisfactory condition."
(SIGNED) FRED E. BOLTON,
Assistant Inspector-General.

OREGON.

"I find this Division in a sore plight and am doubtful about its future success. Lieutenant-Colonel Butchers is making an effort to improve matters."
(SIGNED) CHAS. B. ORAI,
Assistant Inspector-General.

WISCONSIN.

"I find affairs at these Headquarters in all departments in good condition, and they show an earnest effort on the part of the Commander and his staff to advance the interests of the Order. I would recommend the adoption of Division By-Laws and the keeping of a ledger by the Quartermaster as questions of expediency. However, the present system of book-keeping was ordered by the Division Encampment."
(SIGNED) WILLIAM T. CHURCH,
Assistant Inspector-General.

WASHINGTON.

"I find everything connected with the office of the Quartermaster in splendid shape and every evidence that the business of this office is promptly and carefully attended to. The Headquarters of the Division in Seattle are simply such in name. Neither the Division Commander nor Adjutant are members of a Camp in good standing, and they have simply not done anything to keep the Division together, but have let it run down until it is a shame to those who have a pride in the Order. Since the Encampment last June there has not been a Division order issued. The Division would have been better off without a Commander than under the present conditions. I am sorry to have to write in this manner, but deem some explanation necessary for the condition of the Division. I am hopeful that there will be a change after the Encampment next June." (SIGNED) W. T. CAVANAUGH,
Assistant Inspector-General.

MISSOURI.

"I regret very much to feel compelled to state that the Order in Missouri is not in a prosperous condition. In my opinion it will be on the down grade until the Commandery-in-Chief will devise some means to make it an object to join other than patriotism and love of country. As our State statutes prohibit the carrying of arms, our members are deprived of receiving the benefit of military instruction. The officers of the Division have done everything possible to enthuse the members and to increase the membership, but it seems to have been of no avail." (SIGNED) O. F. SESSINGHAUS,
Assistant Inspector-General.

MAINE.

"I found the Division books and records in good order, and the business of the Division ably cared for by the Division Commander and his efficient Adjutant and Quartermaster. The Division, while perhaps at its lowest point in membership, is nevertheless resting on a firm foundation, and the quality and interest of its members is good, and will count for the advancement of the Division in material ways. I find the Division in every way in good healthy condition, and bright prospects for its future usefulness."
(SIGNED) ARTHUR M. SOULE,
Assistant Inspector-General.

GULF.

"Commander C. W. Dale of this Division was removed by Commander-in-Chief Jones for not filing bond and other derelictions. Col. Ed. Gross was placed in command, under whose direction the Division is getting into working order again." (SIGNED) G. B. ABBOTT,
Assistant Inspector-General.

CAMP INSPECTIONS.

The reports of most of the Division Inspectors were very satisfactory and in some cases they were models of neatness and accuracy and we deem it but just to especially commend the Inspectors of the Divisions of New Jersey, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, Rhode Island, Maine, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Massachusetts, Missouri and California for the satisfactory manner in which they performed their duties. In some Divisions the reports were very unsatisfactory, and much labor was entailed upon this department in correcting errors that were inexcusable, and that appeared to be the results of carelessness or indifference.

In reference to the work of the Assistant Division Inspectors we desire to call attention to the following faults: First, favoritism. We can cite numerous cases where the reports show that the Assistant Inspectors were evidently desirous of having the good will and approval of the Camp inspected and consequently failed to conscientiously perform their duties. Secondly, indifference: A large number of the Camp reports show that the Assistant Inspectors took no interest in the work assigned them and filled out their reports in a very incomplete and unsatisfactory manner. Thirdly, incompetence: A large number of the Assistant Inspectors were evidently appointed without any regard to their qualifications for the work and many of the reports rendered are simply not intelligible.

The Assistant Inspectors for the Division of Michigan were selected largely from the local G.A.R. Posts, and the Division Inspector reports that the results were satisfactory, but it is our opinion after a careful review of the reports that this method is not to

be commended. The comrades of the G.A.R. are not familiar with our ritualistic work and methods of business and their reports do not illustrate the true condition of the Camp, and being selected from the local Posts they naturally favor the home Camps.

In a number of Divisions the Assistant Inspectors were assigned to inspect their own Camp and in many cases their reports show that their opinions were much biased by their desire to give their own Camp a good rating. The Division of Ohio is notably weak in this particular.

In exhibit "C" we present a consolidation of all Division Inspectors' reports received up to August 20, with a complete compilation of all statistics and information contained therein, and we desire to call attention to the following statistics as matters of interest to the Order at large.

Reports were received from twenty-one Divisions and all the statistics, averages and percentages in this report are based on the information received from these Divisions. The following Divisions failed to report, although every effort was made to have them do so: Alabama and Tennessee, Colorado, Gulf, Kentucky, Nebraska, Oregon, South Dakota and Washington.

There are 916 Camps in the 21 Divisions reporting and 720, or 78%, of these were inspected and 196, or 22%, were not inspected. 40 Camps surrendered their charters since last inspection.

Question No. 1. 245 Captains, or 33%, received a mark of Excellent for Question No. 1; 173, or 23%, received Good; 207, or 28%, Fair; and 106, or 16%, Poor.

2. 206, or 37%, of the First Lieutenants have committed their ritualistic work to memory; 134, or 18%, were marked Good; 198, or 27%, Fair; and 133, or 18%, Poor.

3. For Question No. 3, 257, or 36%, of the Second Lieutenants were marked Excellent; 126, or 17%, Good; 195, or 27%, Fair; and 151, or 20%, Poor.

4. 231, or 32%, of the Chaplains have committed their ritualistic work to memory; 145, or 20%, were marked Good; 174, or 24%, Fair; and 122, or 16%, Poor.

5. 272, or 38%, of the Sergeants of the Guard were marked Excellent; 161, or 22%, Good; 174, or 24%, Fair; and 122, or 16%, Poor.

6. For Question No. 6, 563, or 80%, of the First Sergeants were marked Excellent; 82, or 10%, Good; 35, or 5%, Fair and 22, or 3%, Poor. This is an excellent showing in this important feature of our work.

7. The Quartermaster Sergeants receive an equally excellent record; 593, or 82%, being marked Excellent; 82, or 10%, Good; 35, or 5%, Fair; and 22, or 3%, Poor.

8. Reports are promptly forwarded and orders filled out in 605, or 84%, of the Camps; 77, or 10%, were marked Good; 25, or 3%, Fair; and 25, or 3%, Poor.

9. For this question 560, or 78%, of the Camps were marked Excellent; 40, or 5%, Good; 74, or 10%, Fair; and 58, or 7%, Poor.

10. 327, or 44%, of the Camps observed Union Defenders Day; 18, or 2%, were marked Good; 30, or 4%, Fair; and 351, or 50%, Poor. This is a very unsatisfactory showing and we trust that an earnest effort will be made for improvement in this important feature of our work.

11. 634, or 88%, of the Camps observed Memorial Day; 14 Camps, or 2%, were marked Good; 44, or 5%, Fair; and 40 Camps, or 5%, did not observe the day.

12. 199 Camps, or 25%, hold Patriotic meetings monthly; 35 Camps, or 5%, received Good; 50 Camps, or 6%, Fair; and 445 Camps, or 64%, did not comply with this constitutional requirement. The attention of the Camps having been called to this feature of our work, we anticipate great improvement in the future.

13. 579, or 80%, of the Camps have their meeting place properly equipped; 59, or 8%, received Good; 55, or 7%, Fair; and 38, or 5%, Poor.

14. For Question No. 14 relative to attendance on the night of inspection 434, or 60%, of the Camps were marked Excellent; 125, or 16%, Good; 83, or 11%, Fair; and 88, or 13%, Poor.

15. 656, or 90%, of the Camps present a badge to recruits when mustered; 6 Camps, or 1%, received Good; 41, or 5%, Fair; and 29, or 4%, Poor.

16. The officers wear rank strap in 480, or 66%, of the Camps, and do not in 252, or 34%.

17. The members of the staff are provided with chevrons in 474, or 66%, of the Camps, and are not in 258, or 34%.

18. In the 21 Divisions reporting there are 23,666 members in good standing, an average of 32 to each Camp.

19. There were 2,864 members dropped during the year, an average of $3\frac{7}{10}$ to each Camp.

20. There are 14,858 members uniformed, an average of 20 to each Camp

21. The total value of all property owned by 720 Camps is $255,663.39; an average of $345.95 per Camp.

22. The amount in all funds over total indebtedness is $57,147.53, an average for each Camp of $77.35.

23. The average amount charged for annual dues is $2.45.

24. The average amount charged for muster fee is $1.89.

25. $12,091.17 was expended for the relief of 755 members, an average for each Camp of one member and $16.35.

26. $1,437.23 was expended for the relief of veterans and their families, an average for each Camp of $1.95.

27. 487 Camps, or 65%, are reported equipped as Infantry; 24 Camps or 3%, as Cavalry; 15 Camps, or 2%, as Artillery; and 215 Camps, or 27%, are not equipped.

28. 8,539 members, or 35%, are equipped with arms and accoutrements. This is an average of $11\frac{1}{2}$ members to each Camp.

29. 234 Camps, or 33%, are engaged in company drill regularly, 496, or 67%, are not.

30. 480 Camps, or 65%, have aided the local Post of the

G.A.R., or other affiliated organizations during the year, and 253 Camps, or 35%, have not.

31. Ladies' Aid Societies are organized in connection with 169 Camps, or 22%, and in 565 Camps, or 78%, there is no L.A.S. organization.

32. 681 Camps, or 95%, have the good-will of the local G.A.R. Post and 52 Camps, or 5%, have not.

33. 565 Camps, or 78%, have adopted by-laws and 168 Camps, or 22%, have not.

34. The total cost of the Camp inspections was $639.04, an average of 86½ cts. for each Camp. The following Divisions were inspected without any cost: California, Michigan and Wisconsin. In the following Divisions the average was very low: Illinois, 26 cents; Pennsylvania, 48 cents; Kansas, 46 cents; Missouri, 45 cents; Iowa, 30 cents; Indiana, 35 cents; and Ohio, 22 cents.

The average rating for the 21 Divisions reporting is 78%. Pennsylvania and Michigan, each with an average of 85%, lead the Order.

502 Camps, or 70%, are rated first class; 209 Camps, or 27%, are rated second class; and 28 Camps, or 3%, are rated third class.

I append the following comments of Division Inspectors, as they cover matters of general interest: —

NEW JERSEY.

"The two great drawbacks to the success of the New Jersey Division are: first, the lack of interest among the members, shown by the poor attendance at meetings; second, the negligence of the officers of Camps, only a small per centage of whom have committed the ritualistic work to memory. Almost all of the Camps are in good financial condition, Camp No. 8, owning real and personal property valued at $35,750 00, deserving especial mention. A number of the Camps belong to the Death Benefit Association, thereby insuring the members for two hundred and fifty dollars."

(SIGNED) WALLACE L. VANDERHOOF,
Division Inspector.

CONNECTICUT.

"In carrying out the work of inspection an effort was made to have the visits of the Inspecting Officer less for ceremony and more for business; to find out just what work was being done and how. It may be said that the Camps as a whole realized the spirit of the plan and did what they could to further it and profit thereby."

(SIGNED) WILLIAM C. DE F. DICKINSON,
Division Inspector.

MAINE.

"I find that the Camps in the Maine Division are doing good work, especially those of the larger places. The members all seem interested in the work and I am in hopes of seeing a large gain in membership during the coming year." (SIGNED) CHAS. M. TITUS,
Division Inspector.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"I believe that the change in the Inspection blank is a great improvement, and that it has done much to make the inspection more successful than heretofore. I believe that by consolidating the first five questions into one question, better results and higher ratings would be obtained. I think that Camps with a membership of one hundred or more are somewhat imposed upon when they are expected to have forty per cent or more of their members present to receive a rating of five per cent." (SIGNED) J. HENRY PEIFER,
Division Inspector.

MASSACHUSETTS.

"More than the usual large measure of interest centers in the inspection of 1899 on account of the quite radical changes in the ranking questions of the Inspection blank. On the whole the new blank seems to be an improvement, and I am led to believe that one or two features which seemed at first objectionable, and to work hardship this year, coming unexpectedly as they did, will lose that objectionableness when they appear again in the blank of 1900, as they certainly should appear in fairness to the Camps. Question No. 12: 'Does the Camp hold patriotic meetings monthly?' is an excellent question and should be continued in the blanks for the purpose of stirring up the Camps on the subject of patriotism, and to remind them of the constitutional provisions concerning it. Already are the good effects manifest, as I have knowledge of many Camps, which are now observing in the letter as well as in the spirit, the provisions of Chapter II., Article V, Section 1, and Article VIII, Section 3 of the C., R. and R." (SIGNED) D. MURRAY TRAVIS,
Division Inspector.

MISSOURI.

"I would suggest a change or division of Question 25, so as to make two questions. I would make rating for first class Camps ninety or over; for second class Camps eighty to ninety; for third class Camps seventy to eighty; and below seventy to be fourth class."
(SIGNED) W. J. ZIMMERSCHIED,
Division Inspector.

MICHIGAN.

"Most of the inspections were made by members of the local Grand Army of the Republic Posts to save the Camp's expense. This has given good satisfaction, as a larger per cent of Camps have been inspected."
(SIGNED) B L. SNOOK,
Division Inspector.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Our experience in this Department for the past year causes us to believe that there is an evident demand and a pressing necessity for an entire change in the methods and forms of inspection that will involve a considerable change in our present C., R. & R., and we therefore present for your consideration the following Recommendations: —

Recommendation No. 1. That a military rank be established under the supervision of the Commandery-in-Chief, this rank to be composed of Camps or parts of Camps, and to have no legislative powers as effecting the Order, and to be under the supervision of its own officers, and to be inspected according to military procedure. The Chief Inspector of the military rank to render, through its commanding officer, an annual report to the Commandery-in-Chief. This military rank to elect its own officers according to military customs, and its commanding officer to be a member of the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief. The position of the Commander-in-Chief relative to the military rank to be similar to governors of States relative to their respective military bodies, the military rank to be composed of Company, Battalion, Regimental and Brigade organizations on similar lines to the Sons of Veterans Reserves of Pennsylvania; special provision to be made for States in which the carrying of arms is prohibited by law.

Recommendation No. 2. That the Order be placed upon a civil basis, and that present regulations regarding uniforms be rescinded, and that the members, not of the military rank, wear civil dress. The

present titles of all officers be changed and titles of a civil nature to be adopted.

Recommendation No. 3. That the Inspection Department be conducted as follows: This Department to receive annual reports from each Camp in the Order through the various Division Inspectors. All Camp reports to be filled out by Captains of Camps, and to be attested by First Sergeants and endorsed by a majority of the Camp Council. These reports to contain such information and statistics as may be required by the Commandery-in-Chief. All statistics relative to membership, numerically, and finances to be secured by the Adjutant-General's and Quartermaster-General's Departments. Each Division Inspector to consolidate reports received from Camps in his Division, and to render consolidated report to the Inspector-General, and the Inspector-General to render report to the Commandery-in-Chief through the Adjutant-General, Assistant Inspectors-General to be appointed by the Inspector-General with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief for the headquarters of each Division. Assistant Inspectors-General to make a thorough examination of all books, papers, vouchers, bonds, etc., and to render a report to the Inspector-General, who shall consolidate the same for the Commandery-in-Chief.

Recommendation No. 4. That it shall be the duty of the Inspector-General to prepare and submit to the Commandery-in-Chief Recommendations and forms of Inspection Blanks for use during the succeeding term.

Recommendation No. 5. That the annual inspection of the Order shall occur between the 1st of January and the 1st of March of each year, and that all reports shall be forwarded to the Inspector-General before the 1st of May of each year.

CONCLUSION.

I desire to express my sincere thanks to Commander-in-Chief Jones, Generals G. B. Abbott and Fred E. Bolton, and to all my associates in the work of inspection, for their courtesy and assistance.

The information and statistics presented in this report are of value only as we use them for the good of the Order, and I trust that the members of this Encampment may have a clear understanding of their duty, as obligated Sons of Veterans pledged to uphold our Government in its onward movement for the good of the human race, and God grant that each of us may be stirred and actuated to new and earnest efforts for the advancement of the principles and objects of our Order.

Brothers, I firmly believe that God has wonderful plans for this youngest nation. These are the days of preparation, and every practical work of reform, mercy and patriotism is a vital present day theme for us to study, and while studying, working and helping, we should still enthusiastically love our country and revere our flag,— "God's stars and stripes."

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED G. LOYD,
Inspector-General, S. V., U.S.A.

EXHIBIT A.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

Name of Division	Assistant Inspector-General	Date of Receipt of Report	1		2		3									4	5	6	7		8	9	10
			A	B	A	B	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I				Yes or No	Amt.			
South Dakota	Z. C. Green	Dec. 22, 1899	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	$35 00	$3 64	$52 00	No
Iowa	A. L. Sortor, Jr.	Dec. 23, 1899	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	75 00	13 80	20 00	Yes
Alabama and Tenn.	L. W. Friedman	Jan. 2, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	18 50	.....	Yes
New Jersey	John E. Sautter	Jan. 10, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	59 25	55 83	Yes
Illinois	Wm. G. Dustin	Jan. 15, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	75 00	50 00	Yes
Indiana	Alfred G. Loyd	Jan. 15, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	250 00	.....	5 00	Yes
Rhode Island	Geo. E. Cox	Jan. 16, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	89 52	30 00	Yes
Pennsylvania	George H. Bailey	Jan. 17, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	262 16	63 25	Yes
Colorado	B. G. Robbins	Jan. 22, 1900	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	19 25	24 00	Yes
Michigan	H. E. Cowdin	Jan. 24, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	110 00	61 39	30 30	Yes
Kansas	H. M. Lewis	Jan. 25, 1900	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	263 46	104 53	54 46	Yes
New York	W. B. McNulty	Jan. 29, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	179 49	137 21	Yes
Kentucky	A. E. B. Stephens	Jan. 31, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	40 41	12 00	Yes
Ohio	E. H. Archer	Feb. 6, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	162 78	59 95	Yes
Massachusetts	Arthur B. Spink	Feb. 13, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	720 21	126 00	Yes
New Hampshire	George E. Leighton	Feb. 23, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	179 02	40 00	Yes
Maryland	R. M. J Reed	Feb. 26, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	88 00	35 00	Yes
Vermont	John E. Fox	Feb. 27, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	165 88	25 00	Yes
Nebraska	Moses P. O'Brien	Mch. 3, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	24 23	26 00	Yes
California	Charles L. Peirce	Mch. 6, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	125 00	60 00	Yes
Minnesota	Geo. T. Drake	Mch. 12, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No*	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	23 65	50 00	Yes
Connecticut	Fred E. Bolton	Mch. 12, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	48 61	60 22	Yes
Oregon	Chas. B. Orai	April 2, 1900	Yes	Yes	No	....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	37 90	17 14	20 00	Yes
Wisconsin	William T. Church	April 5, 1900	Yes	Yes	No	....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	94 71	30 00	Yes
Washington	W. T. Cavanaugh and G. G. Jenkins.	May 15. 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	15 00	40 00	Yes
Missouri	O. F. Sessingham	July 26, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	152 60	57 03	58 67	Yes
Maine	Arthur M. Soule	July 28, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	160 00	80 00	Yes
West Virginia	F. W. Meyers	July 28, 1900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	5 25	31 07	5 00	Yes
Gulf	G. B. Abbott	Aug. 8, 1900	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	.....	.....	.....	Yes
		Totals																		$929 21	$2,839 27	$1,249 89	

EXHIBIT A, REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL (*Continued*).

Name of Division	11		12		13		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25				26	27	28
	Yes or No	Amount of Bond	Yes or No	Amount of Bond	Adjt.	Q.M.				For Year	For Year							A	B	C	D			
South Dakota	Yes	$1,000 00	Yes	$500 00	$25 00	$25 00	247	14	.....	.....	.....	3	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Iowa	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	200 00	50 00	490	23	289	.... .	29	19	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Alabama and Tenn.	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	60 00	.....	135	7	35	.....	2	2	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
New Jersey	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	50 00	50 00	821	23	98	.....	1	1	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Illinois	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	.....	.....	1735	68	.....	.....	.....	8	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Indiana	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	150 00	75 00	1034	45	.....	2	1	27	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Rhode Island	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	15 00	10 00	319	10	27	14	3	.....	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Pennsylvania	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	2,000 00	500 00	500 00	6450	147	.....	11	16	29	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colorado	Yes	1,000 00	Ye-	1,000 00	.....	.....	68	2	22	2	18	3	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Michigan	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	75 00	.....	709	32	287	.....	233	21	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Kansas	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	2,000 00	50 00	150 00	801	34	300	250	... ..	41	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
New York	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	.....	.....	3307	96	.....	7	14	14	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kentucky	No	.....	No	.....	.....	.....	78	5	40	.....	11	11	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ohio	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	.....	.....	1607	73	.....	1	12	12	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Massachusetts	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	2,000 00	100 00	100 00	3425	122	217	.....	1	9	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
New Hampshire	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	15 00	10 00	534	17	83	.....	.....	4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Maryland	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	2,000 00	30 00	20 00	421	20	.....	.....	1	2	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Vermont	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	50 00	25 00	652	33	113	2	1	1	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Nebraska	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	... .	.....	299	20	.....	5	7	7	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
California	Yes	.....	Yes	1,000 00	1 00	1 00	357	15	69	.....	4	4	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minnesota	Yes	500 00	Yes	500 00	100 00	50 00	402	16	72	2	12	12	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Connecticut	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	50 00	50 00	680	23	66	.....	4	2	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Oregon	Yes	.....	Yes	.....	.....	.....	106	5	36	.....	4	4	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Wisconsin	Yes	1,000 00	Yes	500 00	25 00	25 00	437	20	140	.....	3	13	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Washington	No	.....	Yes	1,000 00	50 00	25 00	200	9	67	.....	.....	5	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Missouri	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	2,000 00	125 00	125 00	453	21	229	3	6	6	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maine	Yes	2,000 00	Yes	1,000 00	25 00	25 00	1045	33	.....	2	4	20	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
West Virginia	Yes	2,000 00	No	.....	.....	.....	168	8	.....	....	.....	9	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Gulf	No	.....	No	.....	.....	.....	125	4	14	.....	.....	3	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Totals							27,105	945																

EXHIBIT A, REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL (*Continued*).

Name of Division	29	30 Military	30 Social	31	32	33	REMARKS
South Dakota	.....	....	Yes	$15 00	Camp packet	.....	
Iowa	Yes	....	Yes	.....	" "	$5 00	Charter fee $2.00 per charter member.
Alabama and Tenn.	.....	....	Yes	20 00	.....	.....	
New Jersey	.....	....	Yes	15 00	Camp packet	5 00	
Illinois	Yes	....	Yes	20 00	" "	.....	
Indiana	Yes	....	Yes	20 00	" "	.....	
Rhode Island	.....	Yes	...	15 00	" "	6 00	
Pennsylvania	Yes	Yes	....	25 00	" "	2 50	Camp packet and $10.00 fee to organizer.
Colorado	Yes	....	Yes	10 00	" "	.....	
Michigan	.....	Yes	....	20 00	" "	.....	
Kansas	Yes	....	Yes	20 00	" "	1 15	Expenses of Mustering Officer paid from charter fee.
New York	Yes	Yes	....	20 00	" "	16 00	
Kentucky	.....	....	Yes	20 00	" "	.....	
Ohio	Yes	Yes	....	15 00	" "	4 75	Adjutant and Quartermaster each paid 10 per cent of all cash received.
Massachusetts	Yes	....	Yes	15 00	" "	3 10	
New Hampshire	.....	....	....	15 00	" "	44	
Maryland	Yes	....	Yes	20 00	" "	10 00	
Vermont	Yes	....	Yes	15 00	" "	.....	Muster fee includes expenses of mustering.
Nebraska	.....	....	Yes	20 00	" "	5 00	Muster fee includes organizer's expenses. Division Commander keeps the accounts with Camps.
California	Yes	Yes	....	15 00	" "	.....	
Minnesota	Yes	Yes	....	20 00	" "	.....	* Business done on a strictly cash basis.
Connecticut	Yes	....	Yes	15 00	" "	4 32	
Oregon	.....	....	Yes	15 00	" "	.....	
Wisconsin	Yes	...	Yes	18 00	" "	4 50	
Washington	.....	Yes	....	20 00	" "	3 70	
Missouri	No	....	Yes	20 00	" "	.....	Expenses of Mustering Officer included in charter fee.
Maine	Yes	Yes	....	15 00	" "	.....	
West Virginia	.....	Yes	. .	15 00	" "	.....	
Gulf	.....	Yes	....	15 00	" "	. ....	
Totals		11	17			$71 46	Average $2.46½.

The numerical questions relating to inspection of Division headquarters, are as follows: —

1. (A) Has the Division a charter? (B) Is it in the possession of the Division Commander?

2. (A) Has the Division adopted a code of By-Laws which have been approved by the Commandery-in-Chief? (B) Are they in accord with the present Constitution, Rules and Regulations?

3. Has the Division the following Record books and are all records properly made therein? (A) Record of Proceedings of Division Council and of Division Encampments. (B) Register of members. (C) Roster of officers. (D) Record of commissions issued. (E) Record of dispensations issued. (F) Black book. (G) Adjutant's Cash book. (H) Cash book. (I) Ledger.

4. Does the Quartermaster keep an account with each Camp, charging them with *per capita* tax and supplies and crediting them with payments made?

5. Have all reports and dues been forwarded to Commandery-in-Chief headquarters, and are duplicates of all reports on file at Division headquarters, as required by the Rules and Regulations of the Order?

6. Are Division accounts promptly and accurately kept and are receipts issued for all moneys received?

7. Is the Division free from debt? Amount of indebtedness.

8. Give the amount of money in the Division Treasury.

9. Give value of supplies on hand.

10. Are the supplies only those furnished by the Commandery-in-Chief of current issue?

11. Has the Division Commander filed his bond with the Commander-in-Chief? State amount of bond.

12. Has the Division Commander required a good and sufficient bond from his Quartermaster? State amount of bond.

13. What salary is paid the Division Adjutant and Quartermaster?

14. Give number of members in good standing to date.

15. Give number of Camps reporting at last report.

16. Give total number of Camps which have been organized in the Division?

17. Give total number of Camps disbanded.

18. Give total number of Camps suspended and not reinstated.

19. Give number of Camps suspended during the last year.

20. Has the Division rendered the G.A.R. any service during the past year?

21. Has the Division held a Field Day during the past year?

22. Is all correspondence promptly and thoroughly attended to?

23. Are General Orders of the Commandery-in-Chief promptly forwarded to Camps?

24. Are Camp requisitions promptly filled by the Quartermaster?

25. (A) Is the Division Commander thoroughly familiar with the secret work? (B) Is the Division Adjutant thoroughly familiar with the secret work? (C) Is the Division Inspector thoroughly familiar with the secret work? (D) Is the Division Mustering Officer thoroughly familiar with the secret work?

26. Do the Division officers correspond with and issue circulars of information to the G.A.R. Posts relative to the organization of Camps where none exist?

27. Is the G.A.R. in hearty sympathy with the Order in this Division?

28. Is the L.A.S. established as an organization in this Division?

29. If so, is it of any advantage to the Order?

30. Does the military or social feature of the Order predominate in this Division?

31. What is charged for charter fee in this Division?

32. What does it include?

33. What is the cost of this Inspection?

EXHIBIT B

REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

Division	Division Inspector	No. Camps	No. inspected	No. not inspected	Surrendered charter since last inspection	Date Inspection Report was Received	1				2				3				4			
							Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
New Jersey	Wallace L. Vanderhoof	23	23	.....	.....	Dec. 26, 1899	7	5	9	2	8	7	5	3	10	4	5	4	5	9	7	2
New Hampshire	E. H. Swett	17	17	.....	3	Jan. 8, 1900	3	2	8	4	7	4	2	4	7	2	2	6	6	....	3	8
Connecticut	Wm. C. De F. Dickinson	25	21	4	2	Jan. 23, 1900	6	2	6	7	10	1	4	6	11	1	2	7	7	2	2	10
Illinois	Will C. Creighton	68	56	12	.....	Feb. 17, 1900	9	16	25	18	12	13	23	20	8	11	27	22	12	20	13	23
Maryland	D. M. Rittenhouse	20	17	3	.....	Feb. 19, 1900	2	2	5	7	3	3	4	6	2	1	6	7	2	2	6	6
Rhode Island	Fred. W. Salley	10	10	.....	.....	Feb. 20, 1900	1	3	4	2	2	1	5	2	1	2	4	1	1	2	5	1
Maine	Charles M. Titus	38	31	7	.....	Mch. 5, 1900	11	7	11	2	12	8	8	3	13	6	10	2	9	8	10	4
West Virginia	J. Ira Buchanan	6	4	2	3	Mch. 6, 1900	....	1	3	....	....	....	3	1	....	....	3	1	....	....	2	2
Pennsylvania	J. Henry Peifer	139	120	19	.....	Mch. 8, 1900	42	35	31	12	46	30	31	13	46	30	30	14	43	28	38	11
Kansas	M. R. Weyeneth	62	38	24	3	Mch. 27, 1900	7	13	12	6	8	8	14	8	7	8	16	7	12	7	7	12
Massachusetts	D. Murray Travis	117	113	4	10	April 2, 1900	64	14	20	15	70	15	13	15	67	17	13	16	61	21	10	21
Missouri	W. J. Zimmerschied	20	18	2	.....	April 5, 1900	7	2	9	....	6	2	9	1	5	2	10	1	3	2	9	3
California	Frank C. Shipley	17	11	6	2	April 10, 1900	5	4	2	....	4	4	3	...	5	2	3	1	2	3	4	2
Minnesota	Henry Stodieck, Jr.	20	9	11	2	April 14, 1900	4	1	4	...	5	1	3	....	4	1	3	1	3	2	2	2
Michigan	B. L. Snook	32	23	9	.....	April 17, 1900	11	6	4	2	10	7	4	2	13	6	2	2	10	7	3	2
Vermont	G. D. Van Steinberg	33	29	4	.....	April 24, 1900	5	7	14	3	6	4	15	4	7	6	11	5	4	4	16	5
Iowa	S. E. Day	111	20	21	.....	June 14, 1900	5	6	6	3	6	6	6	2	4	4	8	4	11	5	5	6
New York	Chas. Hagen	95	80	15	.....	June 24, 1900	33	14	14	19	31	14	21	14	31	14	19	16	30	14	16	20
Indiana	Chas. Scott	45	20	25	.....	Aug. 1, 1900	9	7	4	....	12	3	5	....	11	3	5	1	10	7	2	1
Ohio	Rudolph Kein	61	43	18	13	Aug. 6, 1900	9	22	12	....	1	....	15	27	....	1	12	30	....	....	10	33
Wisconsin	C. J. Augustine	27	17	10	2	Aug. 11, 1900	5	4	4	4	7	3	5	2	5	5	4	3	7	2	4	4
	Totals	916	720	196	40		245	173	207	106	266	134	198	133	257	126	195	151	231	145	174	178
	Per cent		78	22	5		33	23	28	16	37	18	27	18	36	17	27	20	32	20	24	16

EXHIBIT B, REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL (*Continued*).

Division	5				6				7				8				9				10				11				12			
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
New Jersey	10	6	3	4	21	1	....	1	21	1	....	1	17	5	....	1	18	....	2	3	12	3	....	8	22	1	....	....	8	....	3	12
New Hampshire	7	1	5	4	17	....	....	....	17	....	....	....	17	....	....	....	14	....	2	1	9	....	....	7	16	....	....	1	....	....	....	17
Connecticut	9	4	3	5	13	3	2	3	12	4	3	2	17	1	2	1	11	2	5	3	7	....	1	13	21	....	....	....	2	3	4	12
Illinois	11	16	17	24	38	12	7	11	44	9	5	10	50	13	2	3	49	6	6	7	42	....	....	26	65	....	....	3	7	3	1	57
Maryland	4	....	6	6	13	2	2	....	14	2	1	....	16	1	....	....	9	5	3	....	11	....	....	6	15	....	....	2	7	2	3	5
Rhode Island	1	1	3	3	7	2	1	....	6	2	2	....	10	....	....	....	8	1	1	....	....	..	....	10	9	....	....	1	....	....	1	9
Maine	12	3	11	5	25	5	1	....	25	5	1	....	26	4	1	....	28	....	1	2	12	....	....	19	29	....	....	2	1	....	....	30
West Virginia	....	....	3	1	4	....	....	....	4	....	....	....	3	1	....	....	3	....	1	....	2	....	....	2	3	....	....	1	3	....	....	1
Pennsylvania	48	25	34	13	100	13	6	1	103	10	6	1	110	7	1	2	108	3	3	6	69	4	6	41	108	4	1	7	59	8	12	41
Kansas	8	13	11	6	25	8	4	1	26	10	....	2	25	4	4	5	28	3	6	1	10	...	....	28	33	3	1	1	5	1	1	31
Massachusetts	71	20	9	13	97	10	3	3	99	9	3	2	104	5	1	3	101	1	2	9	50	1	2	60	112	....	....	1	3	4	7	99
Missouri	5	4	7	2	16	2	....	....	17	....	1	....	15	3	....	....	17	1	....	....	8	....	1	4	17	....	1	....	9	1	....	5
California	6	3	2	....	8	3	....	....	10	1	....	....	8	2	1	....	8	2	1	....	1	....	....	10	11	....	....	....	2	1	....	8
Minnesota	2	4	1	2	7	2	....	..	9	....	....	....	7	2	....	....	7	1	1	...	6	....	....	3	8	1	....	....	6	1	....	2
Michigan	11	5	6	1	18	4	1	....	20	3	....	....	21	2	....	....	21	....	....	2	7	8	....	8	23	....	....	....	9	....	3	11
Vermont	5	10	11	3	23	3	2	1	23	3	2	1	21	4	2	2	20	2	3	4	5	....	2	22	24	....	....	5	5	6	2	16
Iowa	4	3	8	5	13	3	3	1	15	2	2	1	14	3	3	....	14	2	2	2	4	....	....	16	12	2	1	5	5	1	2	12
New York	30	18	17	15	61	7	6	6	69	6	4	1	68	5	2	5	68	4	2	6	50	1	2	27	74	1	....	5	43	3	6	28
Indiana	10	4	3	3	14	6	....	....	14	5	....	1	18	1	1	....	18	1	1	....	17	1	....	2	19	....	1	....	18	1	....	1
Ohio	12	16	13	2	30	7	5	1	30	8	5	....	26	12	2	3	....	....	32	11	...	....	16	27	....	....	39	4	....	....	4	39
Wisconsin	6	5	1	5	13	3	1	....	15	2	....	....	12	2	3	....	10	6	....	1	5	....	....	12	13	2	....	2	7	....	1	9
Totals	272	161	174	122	563	96	44	29	593	82	35	22	605	77	25	25	560	40	74	58	327	18	30	351	634	14	44	40	199	35	50	445
Per cent	38	22	24	16	80	12	5	3	82	10	5	3	84	10	3	3	78	5	10	7	44	2	4	50	88	2	5	5	25	5	6	64

EXHIBIT B, REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL (*Continued*).

DIVISION	13				14				15				16		17		18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Yes	No	Yes	No						Average	Average
New Jersey	22	....	....	1	17	2	2	2	23	....	....	....	19	4	19	4	826	51	630	$40,935 00	$2,083 62	$4 27	$1 87
New Hampshire	16	1	....	.. .	10	3	3	1	17	....	....	....	14	3	13	4	538	37	394	3,196 96	672 35	2 09	1 94
Connecticut	17	1	3	....	2	10	5	4	21	....	....	....	19	2	20	1	643	38	483	5,771 10	1,065 23	2 33	1 88
Illinois	49	5	7	7	33	9	4	22	58	3	....	7	26	42	24	44	1775	183	594	7,550 05	874 26	2 24	2 11
Maryland	13	3	....	1	11	4	....	....	17	....	....	....	10	7	11	6	382	95	160	1,641 00	432 76	2 70	1 55
Rhode Island	8	2	....	....	5	3	1	1	10	....	....	....	9	1	8	2	326	15	244	3,423 98	407 31	2 80	1 85
Maine	28	2	1	....	15	10	6	...	31	...	....	....	25	6	24	7	969	64	587	7,535 45	937 63	1 45	1 60
West Virginia	3	....	1	....	1	2	1	....	4	....	....	....	1	3	1	3	87	37	38	263 00	270 98	4 15	1 99
Pennsylvania	110	5	1	4	77	22	16	5	118	....	....	2	94	26	100	20	6072	860	3570	74,621 66	32,228 34	3 61	1 62
Kansas	24	8	5	1	20	10	1	7	34	....	1	3	11	27	14	24	908	115	368	4,014 00	317 22	1 60	1 68
Massachusetts	107	5	1	....	94	14	5	....	113	....	....	....	103	10	103	10	3406	416	3179	39,828 50	7,576 55	2 90	2 11
Missouri	12	3	1	1	3	5	7	3	18	....	....	....	11	7	11	7	435	52	309	4,242 00	938 80	1 86	1 68
California	9	2	....	....	4	4	2	1	11	....	....	....	6	5	4	7	348	50	153	1,880 00	130 37	3 09	1 75
Minnesota	8	....	1	..	7	1	1	....	9	....	..	....	5	4	7	2	254	61	151	2,112 00	332 60	2 22	3 00
Michigan	19	2	1	1	17	3	3	....	19	..	....	4	10	13	11	12	503	74	478	3,532 00	959 48	1 46	1 76
Vermont	19	7	1	2	17	2	4	6	28	1	....	....	8	21	12	17	606	87	360	2,730 00	494 27	1 54	1 62
Iowa	12	5	1	2	13	3	4	....	15	2	....	3	17	3	3	17	426	45	129	1,657 00	222 26	1 75	1 78
New York	73	6	....	1	69	5	3	3	77	....	....	3	56	24	53	27	2861	337	1944	33,035 00	4,941 33	2 89	1 91
Indiana	19	....	1	....	11	7	....	2	16	....	4	....	8	12	8	12	694	71	250	6,835 14	805 22	2 49	2 12
Ohio	....	...	27	16	....	.. .	12	31	...	....	36	7	22	21	24	19	1189	131	677	9,404 50	1,204 75	2 03	1 98
Wisconsin	11	2	3	1	8	6	3	....	17	....	....	....	6	11	4	13	418	45	160	1,455 05	251 90	2 06	1 80
Totals	579	59	55	38	434	125	83	88	656	6	41	29	480	252	474	258	23,666	2864	14,858	$255,663 39	$57,147 23	$51 53	$39 60
Per cent.	80	8	7	5	60	16	11	13	90	1	5	4	66	34	66	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Average	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	32	$3\frac{7}{10}$	20	345 95	77 35	2 45	1 89

EXHIBIT B, REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL (*Continued*).

Division	25		26	27				28	29		3		31		32		33		34		Total per cent	General Average	First Class Camps	Second Class Camps	Third Class Camps
	No. of Members	Amount		Infantry	Cavalry	Artillery	Not Eq'pped		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Total	Average					
New Jersey	.....	$1,090 50	$335 50	18	....	2	3	644	10	13	18	5	3	20	21	2	21	2	$30 51	$1 32	1883	82	21	1	1
New Hampshire	13	53 50	.....	....	....	....	17	107	3	14	10	7	1	16	17	....	11	6	30 38	1 79	1378	81	12	5	....
Connecticut	7	63 90	16 50	17	3	1	4	364	6	15	19	2	3	18	19	2	19	2	59 32	2 37	1615	77	14	6	5
Illinois	16	44 45	61 26	40	....	....	28	638	11	57	28	40	16	52	64	4	47	21	17 57	26	4967	73	40	24	4
Maryland	.....	22 15	7 00	14	1	1	4	114	5	12	11	6	3	14	16	1	13	4	14 50	72	1309	77	10	7	3
Rhode Island	22	48 25	.....	7	....	....	3	131	3	7	6	4	....	10	10	....	8	2	9 69	97	694	69	1	9	....
Maine	9	122 60	55 00	17	....	1	13	297	2	27	29	2	11	20	30	1	14	17	29 00	76	2424	78	17	14	....
West Virginia	5	43 00	.....	3	1	...	....	21	1	3	3	1	....	4	3	1	4	....	13 45	3 36	308	77	3	1	....
Pennsylvania	450	8,353 78	205 31	97	2	4	17	2171	63	57	80	40	29	91	105	15	105	15	66 99	48	10,192	85	96	23	1
Kansas	.....	93 00	45 00	22	1	....	15	270	8	30	18	20	15	23	36	2	32	6	17 61	46	2773	73	19	16	3
Massachusetts	88	873 17	295 29	68	5	2	40	867	15	100	97	18	19	96	111	4	96	19	117 82	1 00	9416	83	89	22	2
Missouri	7	82 50	40 00	8	2	....	8	105	4	12	12	6	3	15	17	....	15	2	9 00	45	1472	81	15	3	....
California	.....	.....	10 50	3	1	....	7	176	1	10	9	2	3	8	11	....	8	3	.....	.....	889	81	9	2	....
Minnesota	4	30 75	52 00	8	....	....	1	163	5	4	7	2	7	2	7	2	6	3	9 05	1 00	766	85	6	3	....
Michigan	.....	32 06	21 50	23	....	....	...	196	10	13	13	10	....	23	21	2	13	10	.....	.....	1902	83	19	4	....
Vermont	6	40 85	12 32	15	1	....	13	151	7	22	11	18	7	22	27	2	15	14	73 50	2 50	2129	74	17	11	1
Iowa	.....	64 00	27 50	16	1	....	3	131	7	13	8	12	3	17	18	2	18	2	6 00	30	1113	56	1	15	4
New York	79	694 25	167 00	62	4	4	10	1122	40	40	51	29	21	59	71	9	62	18	118 50	1 48	6630	83	58	20	2
Indiana	20	131 40	20 00	8	....	....	12	245	11	9	14	6	10	10	18	2	16	4	7 05	35	1645	82	14	5	1
Ohio	18	86 25	58 20	33	1	....	9	558	18	25	28	14	14	29	42	1	35	8	9 10	22	3354	78	29	13	1
Wisconsin	11	120 81	7 35	8	1	....	8	68	4	13	8	9	1	16	17	....	7	10	.....	.....	1373	81	12	5	....
Totals	755	$12,091 17	$1,437 23	487	24	15	215	8539	234	496	480	253	169	565	681	52	565	168	$639 04	$19 79	58,232	1639	502	209	28
Per cent	.....	.....	.....	68	3	2	27	35	33	67	65	35	22	78	95	5	78	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	70	27	3
Average	1	16 35	1 95	....	...	....	....	11½	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	86½	.....	.....	78	....	....	....

DIVISIONS NOT REPORTING: Alabama and Tennessee, Colorado, Gulf, Kentucky, Nebraska, Oregon, So Dakota, Washington.

The numerical questions relating to Camp Inspections, are as follows:—

1. Has the Captain committed the opening and closing ceremonies and his Ritualistic work to memory?

2. Has the First Lieutenant committed his Ritualistic work to memory?

3. Has the Second Lieutenant committed his Ritualistic work to memory?

4. Has the Chaplain committed his Ritualistic work to memory?

5. Has the Sergeant of the Guard committed his Ritualistic work to memory?

6. Are the records, books and papers of the first Sergeant complete and well kept?

7. Are the records and accounts of the Quartermaster-Sergeant complete and well kept?

8. Have all reports been promptly forwarded and are copies on file? Are all General and Division Orders read and filed?

9. Is the bond of the Quartermaster-Sergeant duly filed, and are all financial matters promptly attended to?

10. Did the Camp observe Union Defenders' Day?

11. Did the Camp observe Memorial Day?

12. Does the Camp hold patriotic meetings monthly?

13. Is the Camp room properly equipped?

14. How many officers and members present at this inspection?

15. Is a badge presented to each recruit when mustered?

16. Do the officers wear rank straps in accordance with R. & R.?

17. Are the members of the Staff provided with proper chevrons?

18. Number of members in good standing?

19. Give the total number of members dropped during the last year.

20. Number of members uniformed?

21. Give total value of all property owned by the Camp.

22. How much money is in all funds over total indebtedness?

23. What amount is charged for annual dues?

24. What amount is charged for muster fee?

25. How many members have been relieved since last inspection, and how much money has been expended in their relief?

26. How much money has been expended for relief of veterans and their families during past year?

In what branch is the Camp equipped? (Cavalry, Artillery or Infantry, etc.)

28. Number of members equipped with arms and accoutrements?

29. Does the Camp engage in company drill regularly?

30. Has the Camp aided the local Post G.A.R., or W.R. Corps, or other affiliated organizations during the past year?

31. Is there a Ladies' Aid Society in connection with the Camp?

32. Has the Camp the good will of the local Post of the G.A.R.?

33. Has the Camp adopted By-Laws for its government and have same been approved by Division officers?

34. What is the expense of this Inspection to this Camp?

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will go to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

The next in order is the report of the Surgeon-General.

Surgeon-General Staples read the following report: —

REPORT OF SURGEON-GENERAL.

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Sept. 11, 1900.

ASA W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief.

Sir: I herewith submit my report as Surgeon-General. Although the result of much time and toil, it is incomplete and nearly valueless, owing to the failure of Divisions and Camps to forward correct and timely reports.

I would respectfully recommend that a committee of five, medical men and Past Surgeons, be appointed to revise the questions now used in Forms 47 and 48, subject to the approval of the incoming Administration, and these with implicit instructions be forwarded to Divisions and Camps, with a positive assurance that the C., R. & R. will be lived up to in case of failure or neglect.

The statistical report is as follows: —

Number of members mustered (including charter members)	Not reported
Number of members in good standing	24,192
Number of members mustered since last report	1,695
Number in State Militia	891
Number in U S. Army	320
Number in U.S. Navy	64
Number of G.A R members	654
Total number of drilled men	8,931
Number of members able to bear arms	18,621
Number of members over 45 years of age	1,165
Age of oldest member (Illinois)	76
Average age of all members	29+
Number of widowers	465
Number of married members	12,786
Number of unmarried members	11,577
Number of deaths within one year	164
Number of cases of sickness during year	1,288
Number of injuries during year	279
Total number weeks disability from sickness	4,281
Total number weeks disability from injury	876
Number Camps paying funeral benefits	117
Average amount	Not reported
Number of Camps paying sick benefits	80
Average amount	Not reported
Number of Camps engaging in regular drill	226
Number members foreign born	193
Number of clergymen	95
Number of physicians	208
Number of dentists	82
Number of attorneys	408
Number of teachers	264
Number of students	521
Number of artists and draughtsmen	149
Number of musicians	583
Number of merchants	477

Number of salesmen	203
Number of clerks and bookkeepers	131
Number of electricians	203
Number of telegraph operators	156
Number of mechanics	3,114
Number of engineers	320
Number of R.R. Conductors	184
Number of printers	531
Number of sailors	77
Number of farmers	2,470
Number of miners	310
Number of skilled laborers	2,046
Number of laborers	3,875
Miscellaneous	1,749
Number of Divisions	29
Number of Divisions reporting	26

In conclusion permit me to thank the officers and members for the assistance and support that they have rendered, and especially the Commander-in-Chief for the honor and confidence bestowed upon me at the Eighteenth Annual Encampment.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

C. W. STAPLES,
Surgeon-General.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will be referred to the same committee as the other reports.

The report of the Chaplain-in-Chief is next in order.

Chaplain-in-Chief Zeiter read the following report:

REPORT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF.

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Sept. 11, 1900.

To the Officers and Members of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment, S.V., U.S.A.

Brothers: The hour of reckoning has arrived and the steward is called on to give an account of his stewardship. Were "accomplishment and success" to be the standard of approbation, I would prefer to be miles from here, for of these I have but little; but when I know that "honest effort and conscientious work" are all that you require, I can look my brethren in the eye and without hesitancy proceed with a record of my Department and a statement of my labors.

The official work, so far as seemed practical, has been attended to. Union Defenders' Day and Memorial Day Circular Letters were prepared and sent forth through the regular official channels of correspondence. In addition thereto we issued a letter designed for Division and Camp Chaplains personally and which I believe was placed in the hands of almost every Chaplain within the Order. We have endeavored to keep in touch with all Division Chaplains and many Camp Chaplains by personal letter and through this means have had the privilege of sending out epistles numbering many scores.

In order that we might better understand our Department and the opportunities for work which it affords we visited most of the annual

Encampments within reasonable distance of our own home and many local Camps within the same compass. We did not deem it advisable to endeavor to prepare programmes or orders of service to be used by local Camps on regular or special occasions. Our Order is too large and too widespread to permit of anything of the kind. We are convinced that Division Chaplains can do this work better and have endeavored to impress upon them the advisability of becoming interested in it. Some have undertaken and I understand met with great success.

We experienced considerable difficulty in getting reports from Division Chaplains, but after much coaxing, exhorting, threatening and the like, all the while being ably assisted and supported by Headquarters and particularly by Bro. G. B. Abbott, we succeeded in getting the following totals: —

Number of Camps		929
Number of Brothers belonging to Camps		22,951
Number of Brothers in line Memorial Day		13,330
Number of Brothers armed and in line Memorial Day		4,859
Number of Brothers uniformed and in line Memorial Day		9,903
Firing Squads furnished		214
Number of addresses by S. of V.		323
Number of Brothers attending Memorial Sunday Services		10,751
Number of Camps observing Union Defenders' Day		339
Number of deaths		146
Number of funerals attended by Camps	G.A.R.	389
	S. of V.	144
Number of Burials conducted by Camps	G.A.R.	47
	S. of V.	98
Memorial Services used	"A"	104
	"B"	110
Number of Camps reporting		632
Number of Camps not reporting		307
Per cent of Camps reporting		$67\frac{3}{10}\%$

Special mention should be made of the work of the Rev. H. C. Dana and Bro. E. F. Tuttle, Chaplains of Rhode Island and Massachusetts Divisions respectively, who succeeded in reaching the 100 per cent mark on reports and Bro. Dan. P. Webster of New Hampshire and Bro. J. F. Peeney of Maryland who reached $94\frac{4}{9}$ per cent and $93\frac{3}{4}$ per cent respectively.

Kentucky and Oregon failed to report. Such Divisions ought to be punished for their failure as had all Camps which fail to send reports to their Division Chaplains. The blanks sent to Division Chaplains have a note at the top which says "Failure to report excludes Division from the right of representation in the Commandery-in-Chief;" and those sent to Camp Chaplains threaten the same in regard to representation in Division Encampments. These provisions ought to be enforced. I understand that little or no attention is paid to the matter because some one in authority at some time or other gave an opinion and decision that made such regulations null and void. If this be true, it is about time that a new decision, off-setting the old, should be made. If there is any value in the consolidated report of the Chaplain-in-Chief or in the report of a Division Chaplain then he ought to have the same backing and support in his attempt to get it that other officers have.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF.

DIVISIONS.	Number of Camps.	Number of Brothers belonging to Camps.	Number of Brothers in Line Memorial Day.	Number of Brothers Armed and in Line.	Number of Brothers Uniformed in Line.	Firing Squads.	How many Addresses delivered by Sons of Veterans?	Number of Brothers attending Services Memorial Sunday.	Camps observing Union Defender's Day.	Number of Deaths in Camps in last twelve months.	Number of Funerals attended by Camps in a body.		Number of Burials conducted by Camps.		Did Camp use Memorial Service?		Number of Camps Reporting.	Number of Camps not Reporting.	Per cent of Camps Reporting.	DIVISION CHAPLAINS.
											G.A.R.	S.V.	G.A.R.	S.V.	"A"	"B"				
Ala. and Tenn...	8	135	19	.....	.....	.....	1	84	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	3	62½	Chas. R. Baker
California.....	16	298	147	54	81	4	8	124	5	1	5	3	.....	2	1	2	11	5	68¾	A. J. W. Einert
Colorado.....	4	108	54	.....	44	2	.....	38	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	75	A. R. Logan
Connecticut.....	25	547	302	94	278	3	9	255	8	2	2	3	1	1	2	3	19	6	76	Rev. Geo. C. Sauer
Gulf.....	7	131	.....	.....	.....	1	3	30	3	1	1	.....	1	.....	1	.....	3	4	43	Harry Lane
Illinois.....	72	1,570	983	360	433	21	16	911	29	3	49	4	7	.....	3	8	53	19	73⅔	O. L. Kiplinger
Indiana.....	45	963	307	32	94	4	12	241	10	2	.....	2	.....	.....	3	4	19	26	42⅓	W. W. Hagans *
Iowa.....	27	157	98	21	22	3	4	72	1	4	.....	3	.....	1	1	2	8	19	29⅝	E. E. Miday
Kansas.....	....	523	328	106	131	10	10	262	8	3	.....	3	.....	1	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kentucky.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maine.....	39	967	544	136	387	6	12	449	13	7	3	5	.....	3	4	4	29	10	74½	E. A. Royal
Maryland.....	16	375	123	67	79	6	9	113	8	2	8	2	1	1	2	4	15	1	93¾	Jos. F. Peeney
Massachusetts..	114	3,424	2,671	574	2,409	17	43	1,949	64	18	15	13	2	8	12	10	114	.....	100	Edwin F. Tuttle
Michigan.....	34	316	240	72	183	6	3	170	5	6	7	5	.....	2	.....	7	16	18	47+	F. E. Munger
Minnesota.....	20	251	159	71	112	.....	2	130	.....	.....	10	6	.....	6	.....	2	10	10	50	G. L. Woodworth
Missouri.....	18	301	113	12	68	3	7	127	8	3	3	3	.....	3	2	2	12	6	66⅔	Jno. C. Berthold
Nebraska.....	21	324	75	.....	32	4	4	54	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	16	24—	H. H. Basler
New Hampshire	18	516	324	67	269	2	1	244	8	6	3	3	.....	3	1	1	17	1	94⅓	Dan. P. Webster
New Jersey.....	21	690	366	259	326	10	7	325	13	4	13	3	.....	1	7	2	18	3	85⅞	W. S. Epperson
New York.....	108	2,988	1,655	573	1,331	17	67	1,353	55	19	23	15	13	15	19	15	81	27	75	L. J. Dambmann
Ohio.....	75	1,284	794	348	505	14	24	703	19	14	55	18	2	9	9	8	42	33	58—	Rev. H. D. Ketcham
Oregon.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pennsylvania...	148	5,629	3,148	1,698	2,568	71	66	2,472	62	41	175	46	20	38	29	19	95	53	64+	R. M. Wright
Rhode Island....	11	355	277	184	249	4	1	201	4	2	2	1	.....	1	.....	2	11	.....	100	Rev. H. C. Dana
South Dakota...	10	172	64	.....	14	.....	.....	52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	4	60	S. A. Fuller
Vermont.....	37	418	293	68	182	2	2	211	5	1	4	1	.....	.....	5	4	20	17	54	F. V. Fuller
Washington. ...	18	136	49	35	21	2	4	62	3	1	10	1	.....	.....	1	1	5	13	27⅞	S. S. Sulliger
West Virginia..	6	118	66	.....	48	1	1	30	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	1	81⅓	C. R. Davis
Wisconsin..... .	21	255	131	28	35	1	7	89	4	3	1	4	.....	3	2	1	10	11	47⅔	W. E. Radtke
Totals.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

* Acting Division Chaplain.

I recommend that some action be taken on the above matter at this Encampment.

A great trouble is that the Department of the Chaplaincy has been held altogether too cheap in our Order. Most of our members look upon the office as a petty affair, something of a sinecure, no real work for it to do, but a necessary station to help balance official relations and give tone and respect to the organization. A result of this is that good men frequently refuse to accept an appointment to a Chaplaincy, or else resign the place as soon as they discover the handicap under which they labor. Another result is that men wholly unsuited for the work are made Chaplains as a sort of reward, or because they are incompetent to fill any other position.

Brothers, give the Department of the Chaplaincy a fair chance. Learn its importance, give it an equal rating with other branches of our work. It is as important as any other and in some respects more important than all others. In selecting men for Chaplains whether it be in the Commandery-in-Chief, the Division or the local Camp, see that only competent men are chosen, and when I say *competent* I refer not only to intelligence but to moral, ethical and religious culture as well. Observation and experience has taught me that as an organization we are by no means perfect and are not free from some of those shortcomings and failures that we find to be so obnoxious in others.

In a kindly and brotherly spirit I would point out a few dangers which I find besetting us; not, mind you, for the purpose of criticism, but that we may be minded to avoid them.

1. I think there is a tendency in some quarters to roll up a membership without regard to the class of men we are taking in. Overzealousness and working for rewards and prizes increases this tendency. By the way, I do not think the best interest of our Order is served by the "prize method." To me it seems rather on the "childish" plan. The Sons of Veterans are men, not boys. We should need no greater spur than that which comes from a thorough understanding of the principles of our Order. The great Apostle Paul said virtually, "When I became a man I put away childish things," and I think we can afford to follow his example in this matter. But to get back to my subject. We ought not to muster men men simply because their fathers or grandfathers were soldiers of the war of '61 to '65. That is only *one* condition that assists a man to become eligible. There are other conditions dependent wholly on himself that should be considered to be of the greatest moment. I claim, brothers, that a man who is lacking in the principles of true morality and respectability is too deficient to become a member of our Order. In some localities Camps have been weakened and destroyed by our failure to protect our membership rolls.

2. I am persuaded that much harm has been done our Order through the improper location of Camp rooms, Convention halls and Encampment headquarters. I know the difficulties under which we labor in selecting desirable headquarters and this is particularly true in large cities; but I think that sometimes a little more discretion in this matter might save us much annoyance and would go far toward attract-

ing to our membership in some places a class of people who feel themselves almost disqualified because of our unfortunate locations.

3. The habit of forming cliques and sets and parties, with all its undesirable results, has not entirely avoided the Sons of Veterans. Now and then we see traces of it, all the way from the Commandery-in-Chief to the individual Camps. Listen: "Friendship, Charity and Loyalty." I'll not have to argue with you to show the inconsistency between our motto and the methods of "combinations." This condition of affairs when it exists, gives rise to many evils, such as "undue ambition," "ungentlemanly speech," "unbrotherly conduct," "feelings of hatred," and actions that are disgraceful. Brothers, let us do all we can, by our own action and work and allegiance, to break up cliques and parties within the body or members of our organization. We can get along nicely without them. Don't let any one think harshly of the things I have said. These wrongs and errors are the exception and not the rule. However, you know that a small evil can overshadow much good, and therefore it behooves us, as members of the Sons of Veterans, to adopt and continue a cleansing, purifying, uplifting method which will always work for the good of the Order.

Now a word to my brothers who are members of this Encampment. You are away from your homes, but don't forget that those you have left behind are thinking of you and praying for you. Away from the protecting influence of home, many of us will be subjected to temptations which will work as strong factors to lead us into evil. Remember your manhood; remember your duty to home; remember the confidence placed in you by the men whose suffrages have brought you here; remember you are under obligations to the Sons of Veterans. Your ways and actions will be watched and noticed by the people of this beautiful city. They will judge our organization by your words and actions. See to it, then, that you travel on a plane that shall be above reproach. The military feature of our Order places you as marked men. Let our conduct be of a type so pure that the good people of Syracuse shall be obliged to say of us when we have gone: "Never have such a fine and orderly body of men convened in our city before, and we hope they will return to us soon."

Brothers, have I seemed to be harsh or unjust or too critical? If so, forgive me. In this presence I aver that "I have said to you what I would not say about you." I am jealous for the Sons of Veterans. I would give my last cent for the organization or a member thereof; I would spend my last breath in her defense; I would give every drop of blood for her honor; but in the meantime — before I reach the last cent or breath or drop of blood — I'll spend my time and strength and energy in doing what little I can to help her on towards perfection; and I think the majority of you were probably of this mind, so far as yourselves were concerned, before I uttered one word today.

I cannot close, Commander Jones, before I assure you that I am deeply sensible of the high honor you conferred on me when you selected me to fill the place of Chaplain-in-Chief on your Staff. But sir, if the impression of honor is great, the sense of responsibility is greater. Honor and responsibility go hand in hand, and he who would

avoid labor must ever hesitate to accept a position of honor. I have endeavored to the best of my ability to perform the work allotted me and if in any way I have failed to measure up to what the brothers of the Order expected of me, you are in no way to blame; for at all times both you and your worthy co-workers at Youngstown have been at my service in giving advice, encouragement and support. As I lay down the honor and responsibility of the position which I consider to be the highest within the gift of the Sons of Veterans, and return to the ranks, I do so with but one regret, namely — that the cordial and inspiring official relations which I have had with the officers and staff of the Commandery-in-Chief, must now cease; but even that regret is obscured when I remember that the friendships which our official relationship has cemented shall last till time shall be no more.

With many thanks to the officers and members of the Sons of Veterans and of this Encampment for the manifold courtesies of the past year, I remain,

Fraternally yours in F., C. and L.,

JOHN E ZEITER,
Chaplain-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will be referred to the Committee on Officers' Reports.

We will listen to the Report of the Judge Advocate-General.

Judge Advocate-General Johnson submitted his report as follows:—

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL.

Gen. A. W. JONES, Sept. 11, 1900.
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U.S A.

Sir: I herewith submit my report as Judge Advocate-General, together with copies of Opinions rendered by me during my term of office, from Sept. 9, 1899, to Sept. 11, 1900.

During my incumbency of the office of Judge Advocate-General there have been submitted to me for consideration and Opinions, the By-Laws of three Divisions, the proceedings in three court-martial cases, and general subjects to the number of fifteen. In two of the court-martial cases I recommended disapproval, and approval in the third.

Pursuant to your request I procured the introduction in Congress of a resolution granting a captured Spanish cannon to the Order, which, through the efforts of U.S. Representative Jesse Overstreet, and U.S. Senator A. J. Beveridge, both of Indiana and members of the Order, was pushed to a successful passage. This resolution was approved by the President June 7, 1900, a copy of which is hereto annexed. In pushing this resolution I had occasion to call on a number of the members of the Order for courtesies, which in most cases were cheerfully rendered. I take this opportunity to offer my thanks for courtesies to Representatives Joseph V. Graff of Peoria, Ill.; James E. Watson of Rushville, Ind., and John J. Jenkins of Chippewa Falls, Wis.; Brothers William E. Hull of Illinois; A. G. Braband of Wisconsin;

E. B. Folsom of New Hampshire; I. E. Morse and S. T. Peck of Vermont, and E. K. DuPuy of Maryland. Brothers Overstreet and Beveridge have already received the official thanks of the Commander-in-Chief.

My relations with the different members of the Order and of your staff, have been harmonious and pleasant. I especially desire to express my thanks to Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott for courtesies and assistance to me during my term of office.

Thanking you for courtesies and assistance accorded me, I am

Yours in F., C. and L.,

F. T. F. JOHNSON,
Judge Advocate-General.

The following is the resolution introduced in Congress: —

[PUBLIC RESOLUTION, No. 42]

Joint Resolution donating a condemned cannon to the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, United States of America.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Navy, in his discretion, is hereby authorized to deliver to the order of Fred E. Bolton, Quartermaster-General of the Sons of Veterans, United States of America, one dismounted condemned cannon captured from or surrendered by Spain during the Spanish-American War; *Provided*, That the Government shall be at no expense in connection with the delivering of said cannon. [Approved, June 7, 1900.]

[For the Opinions of Judge Advocate-General see the Decisions of the Commander-in-Chief.]

The Commander-in-Chief: The report will take its usual reference, and I hope it will meet with the same response it did with me. I agreed with the Judge Advocate-General every time he submitted a Decision this year. Is there a report from the Council-in-Chief?

Chairman Abbott of Illinois: The Council-in-Chief is not ready to submit its report yet.

The Commander-in-Chief: Are there any further reports from officers?

The Adjutant-General: There are no further reports of officers.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the Committee on University ready to report?

Chairman A. L Sortor of Iowa: The Committee on University will be ready to report any time tomorrow that this Encampment may request.

Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio: That is a matter of so much moment and great interest to all the members of this Encampment, it appears to me that some special time should be set, as it is altogether likely that everyone is anxious to hear all that may be said, and obtain all the information possible in regard to this proposed patriotic University and its location. I move, therefore, that the report of this committee, and the consideration of the question of the location of this proposed University, be made a special order of business for ten o'clock tomorrow morning,

and if necessary, that the regular order of business be suspended therefor.

The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Committee on Fraternal Relations is ready to report. General Shepard hardly needs any introduction to this Order.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS.

Frank L. Shepard of Illinois: Commander, I submit on behalf of the Committee on Fraternal Relations a very brief report of the work of that committee. The details have been covered so fully in your magnificent report that it would be a mere repetition to again refer to them in this report. I beg leave to submit the following report: —

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Sept. 11, 1900.

ASA W. JONES,

Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U.S.A.

Dear Sir and Commander: Your Committee on Fraternal Relations appointed to express to the Thirty-fourth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic the sentiments entertained by our Order towards that organization, beg to report that it met in Chicago at the Encampment of the Grand Army, and called upon the officers of the Grand Army and at their several Department Headquarters, and at the headquarters of the kindred societies, and presented your compliments and the good wishes of our Order.

Your committee also made an official visit to the Grand Army of the Republic in its regular Encampment assembled and expressed our interest in their Order, and in their membership of noble manhood there represented; touched upon the purposes of our Order and expressed the wish for a closer practical relationship between the two.

Visits were likewise made to the meetings of the Daughters of Veterans, the Woman's Relief Corps and the Ladies of the G.A.R.

We beg to mention herein the fact that the local Grand Army were assisted in their entertainment of the Encampment by the local Sons of Veterans, who manned the information bureaus, furnished details for the depots to escort the visiting veterans to their destinations, looked after their baggage, furnished sandwiches and ice water to the veterans along the line of march in the great parade, and meals to many thousand veterans during the Encampment, and gave several receptions and camp-fires to the Grand Army, at one of which you and Commander-in-Chief Shaw responded for your respective organizations.

As a result of your communication to and conference with Commander-in-Chief Shaw and the Council of Administration of the Grand Army, the Commander-in-Chief recommended to this Encampment of the Grand Army the appointment of a committee of three to confer with a like committee from the Sons of Veterans in reference to the future relations of the two Orders, which recommendation was adopted by the Encampment.

Your committee met with a close fraternal greeting on every hand, and we feel that the desired relations between our membership and that of the Grand Army, whose splendid example we emulate, is more nearly being realized.

Thanking you, we beg to remain

Fraternally yours,

FRANK L. SHEPARD,
WILLIAM G. DUSTIN,
WM. H. ARMSTRONG,
THEODORE A BARTON,
JOHN R. NEELY,
WILLIAM T. CHURCH,
C. G. MARSH,
Committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: That being a report of the committee the question is on the adoption of the report.

Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio: I move that the report of the committee be received and adopted, and that the committee be discharged with the thanks of this Encampment; and I also would like to incorporate as a part of this motion that the committee that has been requested by the Grand Army of the Republic to confer with a like committee appointed by the Commander-in-Chief of that organization, be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief of our Order at this time.

The Commander-in-Chief: The motion so far as it accepts and adopts the report is unnecessary, as it is a report of our committee and comes before us without motion. So far as the committee is concerned the Chair accepts it as a motion very properly made and will be very glad to appoint that committee. The question is upon the adoption of the report.

The question was put and the report adopted unanimously.

The Commander-in-Chief: Upon the motion of General Bundy the question is upon the appointment by the Chair of a committee of three to confer with a like committee of the Grand Army of the Republic. Are you ready for the question?

Dan S. Gardner of Ohio: Before proceeding with that question I desire to amend the motion of General Bundy that that motion shall include that the present Commander-in-Chief shall be chairman of that committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: Commander Gardner, you will please me very much if you will not insist upon that. I can appoint a better committee.

Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio: I certainly accept the amendment.

Dan S. Gardner of Ohio: I believe it is the sense of this Encampment that the present Commander-in-Chief act in that capacity.

The Commander-in-Chief: I will be subject to orders at all times, but I am going to take General Bundy's motion and I will appoint this committee.

James Lewis Rake of Pennsylvania: We simply want to know whether we have been "gold bricked" or not. We have believed you an honest man and want to continue to believe so. [Laughter.]

The motion was agreed to.

The Adjutant-General, Chairman *ex-officio* of the Committee on Credentials, then submitted a supplemental report, seating representatives from the Divisions of Alabama and Tennessee, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania, which was accepted.

The Commander-in-Chief: The next in order is the reception and reference of communications from Divisions, to be called in alphabetical order. The Adjutant-General will call the roll of Divisions for any communications.

The Adjutant-General: On the receipt of communications I would ask the consent of the Encampment to do this in one job. The constitution requires that the communications be asked for by Divisions and then by Camps and individuals. I suggest that if any brother has anything to present that he present it, whether from Camp, individual or Division, when the Division is called.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to that suggestion? If not, we will suspend the constitution by unanimous consent. The Chair hears none.

The Adjutant-General called the roll of Divisions and all communications were referred to the proper committees, without debate.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: We have arrived in our order of business to a place where there is nothing particular for this Encampment to do at the present time, until you can get more reports from your committees. It has been my observation in the National Encampment of the Sons of Veterans (and I have attended some few in the course of my connection with the Order) that we meet, we hear the reports of our officers, we elect their successors, and go home, and when we get home we think the thing over and we sometimes wonder what did we go for. It strikes me, brothers, that here is a time and a place and the occasion this afternoon when we can go into a committee of the whole and have a general discussion. Not go into our reports to any extent, of the Commandery-in-Chief, but an interchange of ideas for the good of the Order, an old experience meeting for the benefit of the Sons of Veterans. Let us hear from California, and let us hear from Maine, what they are doing, and what they want to do. Let us hear why there is a failure in one Division and success in another. Let us go home and try to do something to build up the Order. Let us have an experience meeting this afternoon and put in two or three hours. Therefore, Mr. Commander, I move that we now go into the committee of the whole to discuss the general good of the Order.

The motion was seconded.

CONCERNING WILLIAM E. HOWARD.

C. J. Post of Michigan: Before this motion is put, I want to present the case of a brother who is a member of our Camp. He is at the present time in the hospital in Manila.

The Commander-in-Chief: An excellent thing under the motion of General Abbott.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: I will withdraw for Michigan on this occasion.

C. J. Post of Michigan: This brother I speak of is William E. Howard. He has been for a number of years a member of Camp No. 14, Grand Rapids. He enlisted in the war and came home and was discharged and re-enlisted in the United States regulars; was sent to the Philippine Islands, and at the present time is sick there in the hospital with dysentery. His mother came to my house Sunday night and said she had been unable to get him discharged or to get a furlough for him. I told her I would bring the matter up before this body and see if something could not be done for this brother. It has been suggested by some of the brothers that this would be a good way to get at it: to make a motion before this Encampment, requesting the War Department to give that brother a six months' furlough, or discharge him and send him home. I make that a motion, that this body petition the War Department to give that brother a six months' furlough and send him home. I think perhaps he will never reach home, from the report his mother gives.

The Commander-in-Chief: May I suggest to the brother, in some way you will have to get the facts before the department? Would it not be well to refer the matter to some committee and let them report the facts and with it a request to the department?

Frank K. Maples of New York: I move that this matter be referred to a committee of five for investigation and report to this convention. The motion was seconded.

S. C. Tipton of Indiana: I would move to amend the motion, that, as J. A. Hull of Iowa is a member of the Military Committee of Congress, that he be placed on the committee as chairman.

The amendment was accepted. The motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: That committee will be: Comrade J. A. Hull of Iowa, Brother Frank K. Maples of New York, Surg.-Gen. C. W. Staples of Vermont, C. J. Post of Michigan, and Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling of Massachusetts.

The Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief: The Committee upon Military College desires the privilege of retiring to complete its work. I desire to be relieved from my official duties.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. Brother L. A. Dilley of Iowa will act as Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

At this point the handsome souvenir badges furnished by the Local Committee were distributed to members of the Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief: What is the further pleasure of this Encampment?

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO LADIES' AID SOCIETY APPOINTED.

George W. Pollitt of New Jersey: I move that the Commander-in-Chief appoint a committee of five to convey the fraternal greetings of the Commandery-in-Chief to the National Convention of the Ladies' Aid Society.

The motion was seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: Don't need a motion of that kind. You have got to agree to it. If there is no objection, we will take it as an established fact. I have selected, I think, the five prettiest men in this Encampment to go and see the ladies and, as I understand, they are all ladies' men: Past Commander Geo. W. Pollitt of New Jersey, Commander Frank J. Clinton of Rhode Island, Commander E. N. Courson of Maine, Past Commander Geo. C. Harvey of Indiana, and Past Commander George Addington of New York. [Laughter.]

COMMITTEE TO CONFER WITH GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC APPOINTED.

The Commander-in-Chief: The committee to confer with the Grand Army of the Republic will be: Past Commander-in-Chief Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio, Past Commander-in-Chief Frank L. Shepard of Illinois, and the incoming Commander-in-Chief, whomever you may elect. The members of the various committees will be excused from further attendance at this session unless there is objection. The Chair hears no objection.

J. Frank Durston of New York: The Local Committee, as you know, have arranged for a ball and reception for tonight at the Empire House. The reception will take place at 7 o'clock. The carriage ride was advertised to start this morning at 11 o'clock and it started at that time. Some of the ladies went, but you did not. The reception will begin at seven; the ball comes after it. On tomorrow night at half past seven o'clock the trolley ride will be given. The trolley cars will start at half past seven. We are going to take you to the Lakeside Park to the theatre. The start will be made from the Court House.

RECESS UNTIL 9 O'CLOCK A.M.

It was moved and seconded that the Encampment take recess until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The motion was agreed to and the Encampment took recess until Wednesday, September 12, 1900, at 9 o'clock A.M.

WEDNESDAY — MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 12, 1900, 9 o'clock A.M.

The Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

The Adjutant-General called the roll of the Encampment.

(Roll-call No. 3.)

The Commander-in-Chief: The next in order is unfinished business.

F. H. B. McDowell of Wisconsin: The report of the Council-in-Chief has not been read.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the report of the Council-in-Chief ready?

Chairman G. B. Abbott: The report of the Council-in-Chief is being prepared. I will state in defense of the Council-in-Chief that Brother Sortor has been very much occupied, as you all know, and there has been one other member of the Council that it has been practically impossible to get to meet with us. Our work of auditing the books has been completed for twenty-four hours, but to transact the business of the Council has been difficult to accomplish.

The Adjutant-General: Perhaps we can occupy a little time by reading some communications.

The Commander-in-Chief: Any communications on your desk you may read.

CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS.

The Adjutant-General read the following communications: —

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Sept. 11, 1900.

Rhode Island Division sends greetings to Nineteenth Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief. Rhode Island for 1901. ORRAY T. MASON,
Judge Advocate.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COL., Sept. 10, 1900.

Regret you are not with us enjoying cool mountain breezes. Cordial greeting and best wishes for successful Encampment.

R. LOBENSTEIN AND
HARRY T. MOORE (California).

The Adjutant-General: We have received a number of invitations from various cities inviting us to hold our next Encampment with them. I do not know whether this is the proper time to read them, or defer them until we consider that subject.

K. B. Czarnecki of Illinois: Commander, I would make a motion that they be postponed until such time as we come to the determination of the place of holding the next Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection that will be the order. The Chair hears no objection.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Ladies' Aid Society called on me last evening and desired to have a time fixed to pay us their fraternal greetings, and looking at the fact that we have a good deal of work for this forenoon, I suggested half past two this afternoon. If that is agreeable to the Encampment we will regard that as the special order for 2.30 o'clock this afternoon. Is it agreed to? The Chair hears no objection. The committee that so elegantly and courteously presented our compliments to the ladies yesterday, will act as a committee still, to receive the ladies when they visit us, escort them, and see that they are taken care of.

The Adjutant-General: I have a further communication, Commander, from Mrs. Ada G. Mohr, Past Department President of Woman's Relief Corps of the Department of New York, addressed to this convention. Is it your pleasure I shall read it?

The Commander-in-Chief: You may read it.

The Adjutant-General read the following communication: —

BROOKLYN, N.Y., Sept. 10, 1900.

TO THE SONS OF VETERANS,

Greeting: As you are now in Convention assembled, although not present, my thoughts are with you. God grant that you may have a pleasant and harmonious Encampment. As the ranks of the Grand Army decrease the responsibility of the Sons of Veterans increases. The world will look to you to perpetuate the name your fathers so nobly won. It is my work and aim to encourage your noble Order and to urge the formation of a Camp to every Post without one You must take up the work your fathers lay down. The aged and dependent widow and mother will look to the "son" for support and comfort when the "veteran" has passed away. You have a future before you, and I stand ready to help you bear your burdens, visit your camp-fires and encourage your Camps from time to time by personal visits.

"In a world where care and sorrow ever will be known,
Where are found the needy and the sad and lone,
Oh! what joy and comfort you can all bestow,
If you scatter sunshine everywhere you go.

Little acts of kindness oft meet the sorest needs;
For the world wants *daily little kindly deeds.*
Oh! what care and sorrow you can help remove,
By your deeds of courage, sympathy and love."

Again pledging anew my allegiance to your Order, the Sons of Veterans, I remain, Your co-worker in F., C. and L.,

ADA G. MOHR,
Past Department President

G. B. Abbott: I will state that I had the pleasure of visiting the New York Division Encampment when Mrs. Mohr came there and talked to the boys and gave them some very encouraging words.

The Commander-in-Chief: Anything further on your table, Adjutant-General?

The Adjutant-General read the following communications: —

NEW BETHLEHEM, PA, Sept. 10, 1900.

Greetings and best wishes to all members of the Encampment. May all business transacted be for the future advancement of our noble organization. Regret that I cannot be with you. JNO. R. HIMES,
Inspector Pennsylvania Division.

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Sept. 11, 1900.

Gen. A. E. Burnside Camp greets the Nineteenth Encampment and hopes to see the Twentieth at Providence. CAPT. GEO. C. FAVOR.

The Commander-in-Chief: I know that our committees were working late last night and have not yet completed their work, and if there is anything else that we can do that may come later, with unanimous consent, we can undertake to do it now. If any member has any matter that he desires to present, the Chair will recognize him for that purpose at almost any time up to ten o'clock, when it is the special order for the University Committee.

Past Commander-in-Chief Maccabe, Chairman of the Committee on Officers' Reports, will make his report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS.

Chairman Maccabe: The work of the Committee on Officers' Reports largely consists of a distributing agency. It also has various matters referred to it. And in order to make partial report, at this time, the committee begs leave to say: —

That, with reference to the seventeen decisions of the Commander-in-Chief, it sustains all save that of Opinion 7, Decision 9. This has been referred back. We neither approve nor disapprove, but simply recommend that, in view of the lack of a statement of clear fact, that it be returned to the original source, to wit, the Division of California, for a clearer and more specific statement.

With reference to Decision 11, the committee sustains the decision, and respectfully recommends that the appeal be disallowed.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon agreeing to the report of the committee thus far made.

The Chair put the question on the adoption of the report and it was agreed to.

Chairman Maccabe: On the question of buttonhole decoration, the committee would say that it is now only waiting for a telegram, in order that we can inform the convention just what that decoration will cost. But, Mr. Commander, your very wise suggestion, in your report, sought an expression of opinion from the Commandery; and in harmony therewith, the committee would be pleased to hear an expression as to the advisability of one or two decorations, and what the same should consist of.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair hears no objection to that course.

Chairman Maccabe: I want to say that we appreciate the fact that the special order of business for 10 o'clock is the University report, and we are willing to withdraw at any time and yield the floor to that proposition, when the advocates of it are ready.

The Commander-in-Chief: What is the desire of the Chairman of the Committee on University?

Chairman Sortor: I would suggest that Chairman Maccabe be allowed to proceed with his report and finish that matter up. I think it would be better all around.

Chairman Maccabe: Without having the illustrations here, I might say, Mr. Commander, that the intent of the gentlemen who passed on the matter of a buttonhole decoration, is practically the adoption of the tri-color bar decoration. That is to say, red, white and blue on either end with a red center. I am frank to say that, for one, I am wedded to the original and the first decoration of our organization, the bar decoration now worn, which some in our Order (and no one else that I ever heard of) refer to as the "barber pole." I want to say that the decoration now proposed has been considered very carefully, and after a careful consideration of all suggestions and theories, the committee thought

it would be best to present to you this one decoration. That, of course, would do away with all other decorations. The intention is to have one and a uniform decoration, and that decoration to stand for something, as, for example, the colors of our country's flag, and to be worn only by Sons of Veterans. And whereas now, there are four or five, or possibly a dozen different decorations, worn by the rank and file of the membership, we will, provided this recommendation is adopted, only have one decoration, and that to be, substantially, the red, white and blue. The committee present this in order that those who desire to discuss the question may have more or less material for debate. We are very anxious indeed to hear an opinion or two, a dozen I might say, expressed as to the practicability of adopting this especial decoration. I should have said, by the way, that the composition of the decoration will be ribbon for those who desire to have a ribbon, and enamel for those who desire to have a long and durable decoration. In enamel you will have it to wear forever. In cloth it will not wear perhaps forever, but next to forever. There will be two kinds, one in cloth and one in enamel. The price of the one in enamel will not exceed nineteen cents to Divisions.

The Commander-in-Chief: The chairman of the committee is now waiting for any suggestion, that any member may have, or any questions that they desire to propound to him upon the subject. It is open for discussion.

Chairman Maccabe: The decoration is practically the one I now hold in my hand, save perhaps, smaller and neater. [Chairman Maccabe exhibits decoration.] It is sometimes referred to flippantly as the "barber pole." In this connection, I would like to say that the history of the tri-color bar decoration commences with the organization of Sons of Veterans, and was conceived primarily, because it contained the colors of our country's flag. Next it was taken from a pretty piece of sentiment, attributed to the great Napoleon, when he organized his famous Old Guard. They were picked men, and when a man was mustered into the Old Guard it was deemed a signal honor; only the worthy, the brave, the tried and the true, were eligible to membership in the Old Guard. And, it is said, whether it is rhetoric or fact I am unable to say, that when the recruit was mustered into the Guard, some distinguished official, in case Napoleon could not do it, placed in the knapsack of the new member a baton, because as Napoleon said, only men who are eligible to carry the baton of a Field Marshal of France were entitled to membership in the Old Guard. That, in brief, is the history of the "barber pole," so called by certain individuals.

Now, then, I want to state the history of the present bronze one. Unfortunately, I have a plain and a blunt way of expressing myself. At Des Moines an effort was made to do away with this pretty piece of patriotism. I was serving on the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, when one of our brothers, in the goodness of his heart, introduced a resolution providing for the creation of the present bronze decoration, as the official and only buttonhole decoration of our Order. In those days we, in the East, had considerable discussion over the anglo-maniac. I arose and asked if we, in the East, who desired to

carry the colors of our country's flag in the buttonhole of our coat could not be allowed that one privilege; and, I am glad to say, that every brother in the convention stood by us, and we saved the red, white and blue decoration. But the commercial instincts of some succeeded in securing the bronze decoration; we, however, had no objection to the bronze decoration, so long as we could keep the red, white and blue. That is the history of the more recent addition to the wealth of buttonhole decorations.

I am frank to say, Mr. Commander, for one, that I am in favor of the retention of this decoration (meaning red, white and blue bar) absolutely. I have no serious objection to the maintenance of the bronze decoration. I would prefer, if you asked me whether or not we should have one decoration, and what decoration that should be, I would prefer this red, white and blue decoration. Quartermaster-General Bolton has a sample decoration, which in my opinion, meets the requirement. It is this [exhibiting bar], only very much smaller and neater — one of the neatest decorations I have ever seen. I do not think it will now come under the flippant caption of a "barber pole," but if it does, and if the "barber pole" teaches me patriotism, and if the "barber pole" maintains the dignity and patriotism of our flag, I will take my hat off in respect to it. [Applause.] The recommendation of the committee, as a matter of fact, is that the buttonhole decoration which Quartermaster-General Bolton has in his possession be adopted as the decoration of this Order.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon agreeing to the report and the recommendation of the committee.

The Chair put the question of agreeing to the recommendation of the committee and it was agreed to unanimously.

E. C. Parkinson of New York: Commander, yesterday I sent a telegram to N. P. Pond, Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic of the Department of New York, requesting his presence here, and I have his reply, with his greetings to the Sons of Veterans, as follows: —

COMMUNICATION FROM N. P. POND.

ROCHESTER, N.Y., Sept. 11, 1900.

Should be delighted to pass my birthday with the Sons of Veterans assembled in Syracuse, but business engagements keep me in Rochester to my great regret. Will you kindly convey to the members of the Encampment as my greeting: —

I rejoice in the fact that the flag of our country will ever be safe in the hands of the sons of the men who carried it to victory and saved the nation in 1861–1866.

N. P. POND,
Commander Department New York, G.A.R.

The Commander-in-Chief: The special order of yesterday has arrived. The Committee on University are entitled to the floor.

Chairman Sortor: Commander, if the Chairman of the Committee on Officers' Reports has not completed its report we would be very pleased to have them proceed. We have some very important business to transact yet.

Chairman Maccabe: We have one more matter, Mr. Commander. That is upon the matter which appertains to one of our Commander's decisions, providing for simply an amendment to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, which, of course, under the rules must be referred to the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and that substantially completes our business for the present time.

The Commander-in-Chief: The committee report progress, and ask further time; if there is no objection further time will be granted. The Chair hears none.

Chairman Maccabe of the Committee on Officers' Reports: Mr. Commander, we have one more matter here; an appeal from Anna M. Ross Camp No. 1, Pennsylvania Division. The committee begs leave to recommend that this appeal be disallowed.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon agreeing to the report of the committee. Are there any remarks?

Chairman Maccabe: This is an appeal on matter pertaining to the inspection of the Camp.

The Chair put the question upon agreeing to the report of the committee, and it was agreed to.

REPORT OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin submitted the report of Council-in-Chief, as follows: —

To the Officers and Members of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.

Brothers: The Council-in-Chief herewith submits a record of its proceedings for your consideration and approval.

At the close of the session of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment at Detroit, your Council held a meeting and was formally organized by the election of G. B. Abbott of Illinois as Chairman and A. L. Sortor of Iowa as Secretary.

The bond of the Commander-in-Chief was fixed in the sum of ten thousand dollars, and of the Quartermaster-General in the sum of five thousand dollars, and later their bonds were submitted to and approved by your Council, the sureties proving satisfactory.

By unanimous action of your Council, September 11–13 was the date approved for the Nineteenth Annual Encampment.

The Pennsylvania Division submitted to your Council a claim against the Commandery-in-Chief for Sixteen Dollars for rituals required by that Division, over and above what was allowed by the Commandery-in-Chief. After careful deliberation it was unanimously agreed that the claim was not a valid one, and therefore was not allowed.

The books and accounts of the Adjutant-General and of the Quartermaster-General have been most carefully examined. Without wishing to be eulogistic, yet, your Council desires to express its appreciation of the careful and business-like manner in which these books of your Commandery are kept. They are models of neatness. We found

the accounts accurate and lucid, and thus our labors were greatly facilitated.

As to the careful business-like management of the interests and finances of our Order, we need but to state that there is a cash balance now in the hands of the Quartermaster-General, amounting to $1,199.67.

The accounts have been certified to on the respective books.

We recommend that no funds be appropriated from the treasury of the Commandery-in-Chief during a session of any Encampment, except for fixed charges, until the resolution appropriating the same shall have been submitted to the Council-in-Chief.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

G. B. ABBOTT, *Chairman*,
A. L. SORTOR, JR., *Secretary*,
W. J. PATTON,
Council-in-Chief.

The Chair put the question upon agreeing to the report of the Council-in-Chief, and it was agreed to unanimously.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Adjutant-General: The Committee on Credentials beg leave to submit the following names as entitled to seats in this Encampment.

Commander Robt. J. Van Houten, Past Commander James B. Adams of New Jersey; Past Commander Arthur M. Soule of Maine; Past Commander John R. Neeley of Illinois; Past Commander-in-Chief R. M. J. Reed, Past Division Commanders W. B. McNulty, Wildun Scott, Jas. H. Tawney, Delegates Walter R. Ross, F. H. Hawkins, Wm. D. Orr and Jno. L. Salem of Pennsylvania.

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY.

Chairman A. L. Sortor: Commander, the Committee on University is ready to report, and Secretary Wm. T. Church of the committee will read the report.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair has the pleasure of presenting Brother Church of Illinois, who will present the report of the University Committee.

Past Commander Church read and submitted the report of the Committee on National Military College as follows: —

ASA W. JONES,
Commander-in-Chief, S. V., U.S.A.

Sir: Your Committee upon Military College has the honor to report as follows: —

In presenting its report the committee does so with the full realization of the fact that it should be complete, yet the work was so vast that we found ourselves obliged to condense much of the matter treating of essentials, and to eliminate a great amount of interesting detail. However, we assume that every member of the Commandery-in-Chief is familiar with this subject, which we feel is the most important work ever attempted by the Order.

Prior to the appointment of the original committee in 1897, there was material evidence of the desire upon the part of the more practical members of the Order to undertake some work of large proportions, and in keeping with

its teachings. That committee was appointed to investigate the merits of the proposition to found a Memorial University, dedicated to the memory of the soldiers of the Union Army and the women of war times, and if possible report some feasible plan of action. It realized that the effort would be useless unless the rank and file of the Order approved of the idea, and desired to labor for its success. In so large an undertaking it was evident that the support of the Camps was absolutely necessary, therefore, the work was largely with them, and the result of this investigation was the discovery that the Camps not only approved, but asked a part in the work.

The report of that committee was unanimously adopted at Detroit last year, the plan to found such an institution approved, and this committee instructed to continue the work. Having been ordered to the work by the practically unanimous sentiment of the rank and file and the unanimous vote of the Commandery-in-Chief, the committee could not be indifferent to the call; and in subsequent action has attempted to comply with the positively expressed desires of the Order, and to labor with an earnestness which would bring success.

There is a possibility that in reporting the actual results of the year's work, this committee might be accorded undue credit by the Commandery-in-Chief, if this report was not prefaced by the information that these labors have been a delight because of the cordial reception of the idea by patriotic people everywhere, and the statement that the net results of this year's work represents the labor of thousands of loyal men and women.

Not only have the rank and file of this Order responded nobly and substantially, but an equally substantial interest has been taken in the movement by the allied Orders, and thousands of the best people in America who do not happen to be eligible to membership in this or other hereditary-patriotic societies. If the attempt were made to make mention of the workers deserving honorable mention, an injustice would be done to many, and the list would be too long for incorporation in a committee report. In this connection it is the opinion of the committee that a large, substantially bound volume should be procured and the names of the pioneer workers who have made this movement a success enrolled therein, and this book placed among the treasures of the institution. The united efforts of the many have brought success beyond the hopes of the most sanguine, and far in excess of this committee's estimate made one year ago.

Upon receiving appointment to this committee each member seemed duly impressed with the responsibility of the position and the grave importance of the work in hand. It was a work so far reaching in its effects, and its immediate execution of such vital importance, that it must be pursued cautiously and yet with vigor. In accepting appointment it was the feeling of each member of the committee that he was assuming the most responsible commission of a lifetime and entering upon a work the success of which would cause the world to applaud this Order, while failure meant personal disgrace. With this sense of grave responsibility the committee entered upon its duties earnestly, and with the belief that the best advice in the nation was none too good, because the contemplated work was the rearing of the world's greatest soldier memorial. The general desire of our countrymen to honor the memory of our heroic sires and the womanhood of war times, made it comparatively easy to arouse enthusiasm and obtain subscriptions everywhere.

It has been our policy to constantly consult with leading financiers and promoters, eminent educators, and many members of the Grand Army whom we wish to honor, therefore, many of our plans are not original; and in nearly all cases we have tried to be conservative, yet prompt in the execution of the work, for delay meant failure.

After agreeing upon general outlines we proceeded to open an office at Mason City, Ia., and within the limits of our capabilities to execute as many of these plans as twelve months' time would permit. Immediately after appointment, the committee met at Detroit and organized by electing A. L. Sortor, Jr., of Iowa, Chairman, and William T. Church of Illinois, Secretary. At this meeting preliminary arrangements for the year's work were agreed upon and the distribution of work made. Besides this meeting four others have been held during the year; the second with all members present, the

third in Chicago, with Cox, Church and Sortor present, and the fourth was also held in Chicago during the week of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic; Cowdin, Morris, Church and Sortor present. The fifth meeting, at which this report was compiled, was held at Syracuse, N.Y., with all members present. Besides these various meetings, the Chairman and Secretary have met at the headquarters in Chicago at frequent intervals during the year; and the entire committee has been constantly in close touch by mail.

As regards the literary campaign carried on by the committee, we believe that each member of this body is fully familiar; suffice it to say that we have not confined our efforts exclusively to the Sons of Veterans, but have carried on an equally vigorous campaign within the ranks of the allied Orders. The proposition has been personally presented by the members of the committee and its representatives at nearly all of the Division Encampments and also the Department Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic, Woman's Relief Corps and Ladies' Aid Society, and everywhere with satisfactory results and large subscriptions.

At the National Encampment of the Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of Veterans at Chicago, our plans were enthusiastically received, and the assistance of these powerful organizations pledged us. Our plans were in like manner presented to the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Chicago, and that Order on the recommendation of its Commander-in-Chief appointed a committee of three to confer with a like committee of the Sons of Veterans as to the future relations of the two Orders. The members of the Grand Army of the Republic were particularly pleased with the proposition.

The Ladies' Aid Society have also pledged us support, and during this year it has rendered invaluable aid. Plans are now being executed by this society, which we are positive will result in a building of no mean proportions, and an honor to our auxiliary.

The Spanish War veterans are now considering the proposition of erecting a building as a special memorial to the men who fell in that conflict, and this plan is now practically sure of execution.

Propositions to organize and conduct professional schools in connection with our universities, without financial risk to the institution, and at the same time paying tribute thereto, have been made by various reputable professional men. Several chairs will be endowed and offered the Board of Regents, and several large endowments are available at such time as actual work shall be commenced

The Daughters of Veterans have commenced raising funds for the purpose of erecting a building; and, judging from what we know of this organization, after having attended its National Encampment, we feel safe in predicting a structure which will do honor to any American university. Besides this and other large assets which are available, we might enumerate an endless number of minor gifts which we can claim at such time as they can be utilized In fact, in this report it would be utterly impossible to enumerate all the gifts of which we can avail ourselves, when it is desirable so to do, but of all these the greatest pledge made on honor by thousands of earnest patriotic people is the promise to "weary not in well doing" until we have firmly established a Memorial University which will be a credit to its founders and an honor to those to whose memory it is dedicated

From the War Department we will be able to obtain the detail of an army officer as Military Instructor in Military Science and Tactics and the necessary equipment for the College Battalion.

During the past year the Division Encampments have contributed to the Expense Fund of the committee as follows: —

Michigan	$44 08
Massachusetts	37 20
Penusylvania	32 85
Iowa	21 00
Illinois	17 92
New York	8 00

Pledges from the Sons of Veterans to the amount of $100,000 have been secured From other sources promises and pledges of cash and property worth at least $200,000 have been received, and are believed to be attainable.

We have no hesitation in stating it to be our belief that by the time the University is ready to open its doors, it can have available for use at least $2,000.000 in cash or its property equivalent. This committee was also charged with the duty of receiving applications for locations of the institution; five propositions have been filed with it up to this date and are herewith submitted: —

COLD SPRING, PUTNAM CO., N.Y., Sept. 11, 1900.

PRESIDING OFFICER SONS OF VETERANS,
Syracuse, N.Y.

Will with pleasnre present beautiful and valnable site snfficient and snited for university in Utica, if aceeptable and adopted. Been over sixty years in family.

DANIEL BUTTERFIELD.

"THE HERMITAGE," LAKE MINNETONKA,
MOUND, MINN., Sept. 4, 1900.

A. L. SORTOR, Jr.,
Mason City, Ia.

Dear Sir: The Minneapolis, Minn., *Journal* of Aug. 31, 1900, gives me your name as one of the Sons of Veterans' Committee on the National College, dedicated to the Civil War veterans.

I served my country in the war for the Union on ship and shore, from April 16, 1861, until March 12, 1866.

I own on Lake Minnetonka a forty-acre lot (my home), free of any incumbrance, which I will give for your college site.

I think I have a fine tract and site for your college and think its proximity to the twin cities, St. Paul and Minneapolis, would be of advantage to the institution.

Yours in F., C. and L.,
GEO BLIGHT HALSTED,
Captain, Brevet Major and A.A.-G. U.S. Vols.

REAL ESTATE NEWS AND UNION STAR.
Silas Dewey Drake, Editor.

MR. GEORGE E. COX,
Hartford, Conn.

PLAINFIELD, N.J., Sept. 1, 1900.

Dear Sir: I take this means of trying to communicate with the committee who have charge of the building of a college for the Sons of Veterans. I would say that I would like to offer a tract of land of ten acres at Lincoln, N.J., as a location for the college you purpose building. Lincoln is situated four miles west of Plainfield, on the Lehigh Valley and Central Railroads of New Jersey. This town has every modern improvement, such as trolleys, city water, fire department, post-office, two depots, and with a commanding view of the beautiful Watchung mountains. In addition to the donation of the land I could make a very substantial donation of twenty-five thousand dollars, under certain conditions, which can be explained later.

I am an old veteran of the war, gave my right arm for the country, and my son was the Colonel in a Camp of the Sons of Veterans in Elizabeth, N.J., Louis Lincoln Drake, who served also in the Spanish War.

I refer to the First National Bank of Plainfield or to Gov. Foster Voorhees as to my standing in the business world. I trust you will submit this offer at your meeting September 13, and will not decide to locate at any other place until you have fully considered the advantages of Lincoln as a site for the Sons of Veterans' College.

Yours truly, SILAS DEWEY DRAKE.

Brothers of the Maryland Division present the offer of Hon. Frank Hume, a member of the Virginia Legislature, of fifty acres of land valued at one thousand dollars per acre, situated on the Arlington Ridge one-half mile south of Arlington Cemetery, near the Potomac river and fronting on Washington Alexandria, Mt. Vernon Railroad, overlooking the entire city of Washington, about three miles from the White House, together with the pledged support of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, Washington Board of Trade and Business Men's Association.

PROPOSITION OF THE PEOPLE OF IOWA TO THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF VETERANS, U.S.A.

The National Military College Association (Incorporated), with principal place of business at Mason City, Ia., and speaking for the people of Iowa, offer you the following in consideration of the selection of the city of Mason City, Ia., by the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., as the location for the proposed Memorial University.

SITE. The tract of about forty acres known as the Military College Reserve in Lyon's Park Addition, Mason City, Ia.

Value	$75,000 00
Building. To cost not less than	75,000 00
(Would cost $100,000 at any point removed from quarries.)	
Support of Chair of Bible Study for five years by churches of Mason City, Ia.; value of service	10,000 00
Support of Chair of Applied Patriotism for ten years, by Lincoln Institute of Civics; value of service . . .	10,000 00
Lake Front Site for Naval Reserve Station and Boat Houses, Rifle Range, Books for Library, Special Memorials, Furniture, War Relics for Museum, Paintings, Statuary, Trees and Shrubs for Campus, Labor, Building Material, Athletic Park	30,000 00
	$200,000 00

City water and sewerage extended to College grounds and buildings.

J. E. E. MARKLEY, *President.*
H. A. DYER, *Secretary.*
Representing the banks of Mason City, Ia.

We hereby certify that the above corporation is in possession of the above described land and competent to build the proposed building and to fully carry out the terms of this offer.

JAMES E. BLYTHE,
President Commissioners Savings Bank of Mason City, Ia.
A. H. GALE,
Cashier City National Bank of Mason City, Ia.

One year ago it was resolved that this committee should proceed with the work of procuring pledges of financial support to be reported at this time, and that if it should appear that a sufficient sum had been pledged to warrant proceeding with the work, that the location should be selected by this Encampment and the Board of Regents elected to organize this institution.

It is the opinion of the committee that sufficient financial assistance has been pledged for beginning, and after having made such inquiry and investigation of the several propositions for locating as opportunity has been offered us, we are constrained to make certain recommendations to this Encampment and urge their adoption as embodied in the following resolutions: —

Be it Resolved, By the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A , that the report of the Committee on Military College be, and the same is hereby adopted, and the establishment of an institution of learning dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic as a memorial of the patriotic men and women of the period of the Civil War is approved and authorized; and

Be it further Resolved, That the proposition of National Military College Association of Mason City, Ia., for the location of this institution be accepted, and the institution is hereby located at Mason City, in the State of Iowa; and

Be it further Resolved, That no financial obligation shall be hereby imposed on or incurred by the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.; and

Be it further Resolved, That this institution shall provide courses of instruction for both sexes of such character as is usual in like institutions, and in addition thereto special courses in military instruction, American history and patriotism; and

Be it further Resolved, That the institution shall be governed by a Board of Regents of eleven members to be selected as follows: —

Five Regents, who shall be members of the Order of the Sons of Veterans, shall be elected by the Encampment.

For one year from this date they shall constitute the executive committee of the Board of Regents, shall make their own By-Laws, and shall have full power to discharge all of the duties and exercise all of the powers of the Board when the same is not in session.

They shall cause the institution to be incorporated, and shall become the first trustees or directors of the incorporation agreeably to the law under which the corporation is effected.

They and their successors as such trustees or directors, which successors shall also be members of the Order of the Sons of Veterans, shall continue to be members of the Board of Regents during their respective terms of office as such trustees or directors.

The executive committee of the Board of Regents shall every three years appoint two regents who shall be residents of the community in which the institution is located, and may appoint one additional Regent who shall hold office for the term of three years

The Commander-in-Chief, the Quartermaster-General and the chairman of the Council-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, and the president of the institution when one shall have been elected, shall be *ex-officio* members of the Board of Regents, with all the rights and privileges of other members during their respective terms of office.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Regents shall adopt a Constitution and By-Laws in harmony with these resolutions.

They shall, and are hereby authorized and empowered to receive the money, real and personal property, by proper conveyances, and all effects of the institution, or any of the same which may be contributed thereto, and turn over and convey the same to such corporation when formed, to be held by it for the institution.

The Board of Regents shall have the power to solicit contributions to the endowment and other funds of the institution, and have full power to act in the promoting objects and purposes of this resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

A L. SORTOR, Jr., *Chairman.*
GEO. E. COX,
W. A. MORRIS,
WM. T. CHURCH,
H. E. COWDIN,
National Military College Committee.

Wm. T. Church of Illinois: Commander-in-Chief, I move the adoption of the resolutions just read.

F. H. B. McDowell of Wisconsin: Commander-in-Chief, I second the motion.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon the adoption of the report and recommendations of the committee.

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: I offer as a substitute that the recommendations of the committee be taken up in their regular order, section by section.

The Commander-in-Chief: Do you desire a division of the question upon the several recommendations?

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: Yes sir.

The Commander-in-Chief: A member has demanded a division of the question upon the several recommendations of the committee. The

Chair is of the opinion that it is proper, and he is entitled to it, and Secretary Church will read the first recommendation.

Secretary Church read as follows: —

Be it resolved, By the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., that the report of the Committee on Military College be, and the same is, hereby adopted, and the establishment of an institution of learning dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic as a memorial of the patriotic men and women of the period of the Civil War is approved and authorized.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon agreeing to the recommendation. Are there any remarks?

Edgar Allen, Jr., of Virginia: It strikes me that the passage of the first resolution would put a bane on any other recommendations presented by the committee, as that resolution itself embodies the whole. It is very simple, what I propose to say. I simply object to the passage of the first resolution, because the first resolution embodies the entire resolutions, as a whole, and if you pass the first resolution you cannot have debate on any other resolution, and I therefore ask that the Commandery-in-Chief object to the first resolution, as presented.

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: Commander, we have gone to a great deal of trouble and expense to secure an offer of a site, and we wish to present it to this Encampment. We do not wish to be cut off by the recommendation of the committee, who have taken advantage of their position in that connection, and we wish to have this presented to the Encampment.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander-in-Chief, I desire to arise to a point of order.

The Commander-in-Chief: Commander Archer will state his point of order.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: My point of order is, that the committee offering a resolution with several sections, that the only way that can be attacked is by a minority report, or by an amendment to some one of them, and that a resolution is not subject to consideration section by section, except upon a minority report, or by an amendment of some one of the sections.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair is inclined to think that a division of the question may be made upon the resolution.

E. C. Parkinson of New York: Commander-in-Chief, Brothers, it is my opinion that the committee's report, while definite and specific, is not of that character to preclude a possibility of fair play for others who have presented propositions for the location of this University. There is no disposition on the part of the committee to cut off their rights and privileges in this matter, and I believe in the fair play of the committee, and in the fair play of this body of men. We will not approach this subject with any desire of hair splitting, but with a determination to do what shall be the best for the establishment of this institution. I believe in my heart that your committee has given this matter great care and consideration. The result that is presented in their report demonstrates this to be a fact. Regardless of how I shall

vote on this matter, I desire that other propositions shall be considered, and acted upon, by this body; so that, when we shall have reached a final conclusion no brother, no section, that has been interested in securing propositions for the location of this institution, shall go home and say they were ignored and did not have fair play. I may be ready to vote now, but some may not be ready to vote now. We will approach this matter with deliberation, as we should, so that when we have reached a conclusion we may all shake hands and say we have done well in this matter.

The Commander-in-Chief: If the Chair might suggest what his holding would be, subject to an appeal by the body, upon a question of location — the passage of this resolution will have nothing in the world to do with the question of location, that question will be passed on when we get to it.

Geo. W. Pollitt of New Jersey: The brother's intention would be all right, provided it coupled with it a resolution that it should be located at Mason City. When the time comes for the recommendation fixing it at Mason City, then the brothers can come in with their proposition. But we must first vote to locate a University. We must first vote to have it. That we have not done.

The Chair put the question upon agreeing to the resolution of the committee, and it was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Secretary will read the second resolution.

Secretary Church read the resolution as follows: —

Be it further resolved, That the proposition of National Military College Association of Mason City, Iowa, for the location of this institution be accepted and the institution is hereby located at Mason City, in the State of Iowa.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon agreeing to the second resolution. This second resolution, as you discover, locates it at Mason City, Iowa.

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: Commander, I move you sir, as an amendment to that resolution, that the words "Mason City" be stricken out and "Washington, D.C.," inserted.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Adjutant-General: Mr. Commander, as we are about to take a vote, the Committee on Credentials wish to state they have voted in favor of seating Past Division Commander A. Hoeffling of New York, Past Commander-in-Chief Chas. F. Griffin, Past Commander H. O. P. Cline of Indiana, and Delegate Wilbur Van Houton of New Jersey. The committee moves that they be seated.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. They will be seated.

The question is upon the motion of the brother from Maryland, to strike out and insert. Are there any remarks?

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: Commander, the brothers of Maryland Division wish to present for your consideration as a site for the National Memorial University, the National Capital.

We do not desire to sway your judgment by an elaborate oratorical effort; if we did, some one else would have been selected for this honor. Neither do we propose to belittle the claims of other localities, but shall endeavor to convince you of the superiority of ours.

In the first place we realize that this is an effort of the entire Order, and it is not the work of any one Division or locality. We therefore present our claims, trusting to the hearty support of the Order if they are recognized.

We now present the following communication from the executive branch of the government of the District of Columbia: —

EXECUTIVE OFFICE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 1, 1900.

The Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, Nineteenth Annual Encampment, Syracuse, N.Y.

The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have been informed of the patriotic purpose of your honored organization to erect at some appropriate locality a National Memorial Military College.

They have the honor to invite your attention to the exceptional advantages which would accrue to the youth who will be trained in such a college by its establishment at the National Capital or its immediate vicinity. The pupils educated in an institution so located would, in and by their free access to the Congressional Library, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum, the Naval Observatory, the Patent Office and the Halls of Congress, have a combination of educational privileges which could not elsewhere be secured. They would, during their scholastic terms, be in constant association with the emblems of national dignity and power and would have the privilege of studying the practical administration of the federal government. Their study of the history of the United States would be illustrated by statues and monuments typical of great men and great events; and they would be within easy access of many of the great battlefields of the War of the Rebellion.

The Commissioners earnestly invite your Association to consider the availability in this regard of your own Capitol City for the proposed location; and they pledge themselves to endeavor to secure from the Congress of the United States any appropriate legislation which may be deemed necessary to fully carry out the noble purpose had in view by the Sons of Veterans.

Very respectfully, JOHN W. ROSS,
Acting President, Board of Commissioners, D.C.

I now present a communication from our most influential business organization, the Board of Trade.

WASHINGTON BOARD OF TRADE.

1101 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 8, 1900.

The Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans:

In behalf of the Washington Board of Trade, I have the honor to ask your special consideration of the District of Columbia as the place in which to erect your National Memorial Military College.

Other communities may, and doubtless will, offer extraordinary inducements, but none can possibly possess more advantages than are to be found within the Nation's Capital. Here you may dwell without suffering from the State jealousies which would surely be aroused were you to go elsewhere. Should you secure a purely local habitation, the college would soon become more or less closely identified with the many inhabitants of that locality and eventually with the State itself. Here you will find neutral ground. Here is the home of every American. The National Capital is the common property of all.

When you decide to build this monument to the true patriotism of your Order you will undoubtedly decide to place it at Washington. The Washington Board of Trade will then be at your service to do anything it can to help you in completing the work to which you have devoted yourself.

Very respectfully,
GEO. H. HARRIES,
Secretary.

We will supplement that by a communication from the Business Men's Association of Washington, composed of over two thousand of our commercial and professional citizens. It is as follows: —

BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 5, 1900.

WHEREAS, The attention of the Business Men's Association has, through its Board of Directors, been called to the laudable desire of the Sons of Veterans throughout the United States to raise funds for the erection of a National Memorial Military College, which will provide a military education for young men, irrespective of political parties, sections and creeds; and

WHEREAS, The Division of Maryland, Sons of Veterans, has very properly endorsed a site near the National Capital generously donated by our public-spirited citizen, the Hon. Frank Hume; be it

Resolved, That the Directors of the Business Men's Association, imbued with the true spirit of devotion and loyalty to the city's best interests and all that will conduce to the betterment of its educational facilities, do most heartily commend this action of the Sons of Veterans as most thoroughly progressive and in entire consonance with the patriotic purposes of their foundation; and be it further

Resolved, That the project is, in the opinion of the Board of Directors of this Association, worthy of the support and interested co-operation of all residents of the District of Columbia.

BARRY BUCKLEY,
Secretary (Per E. K.).

Brothers, you have now heard from official and commercial sources. We trust that every word will be borne in mind by the Encampment in voting on this important question.

We will now present the offer of Mr. Frank Hume, a wholesale merchant of Washington and member of the Virginia Legislature.

WASHINGTON BOARD OF TRADE.

GEORGE S. WHITMORE,
504 11th St, N.W., City.

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 19, 1900.

My Dear Sir: My attention was called to an item in the *Evening Star* of the 18th regarding efforts being made by you and others to raise funds to erect a National Memorial Military College.

Please allow me to say that I some six years ago obtained from the Legislature of Virginia, an act incorporating "The Mt. Vernon Military College." My object at that time was to fit young men for successful entry into Annapolis or West Point, as well as to graduate them at this place.

I received a large number of applications from professors of military schools all over the United States who desired appointments in the various departments. Owing, at that time, to a depressed condition of money my plans were deferred to a more auspicious time.

If you desire locating your Memorial Military College here I will make you the following offer, provided within a reasonable time it is accepted: —

Garfield Heights is a continuation of the Arlington Ridge, and is about half a mile south of the Arlington property, and about three-quarters of a mile south of the proposed Memorial Bridge. *I will agree to deed to your Association fifty acres of unincumbered property fronting Mt. Vernon Avenue*; ten minutes' ride on electric cars to Pennsylvania Avenue, *and the handsomest site anywhere to be found.* This property is now worth $1,000 per acre, and will be more than doubled when the Memorial Bridge is started. I would say that this property was purchased jointly by the late President Garfield and Hon. Jerry Black. Mrs. Garfield still owns the part awarded to her, the land being by order of court divided.

I would be pleased to have a talk with you regarding this subject, which for years has been my hobby as you can see by my offer of this valuable tract of land as a donation to aid you in accomplishing this most desirable work.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANK HUME,
454 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

REMARKS OF PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF WHITMORE.

My brothers, the liberality of the above proposition is best known to the ones who have had the pleasure of looking over the ground. When the offer was first made we were impressed with the appropriateness and the congeniality of the surroundings. Within half a mile is Arlington National Cemetery, wherein rest the remains of about twenty thousand heroic defenders. Every Decoration Day this is the Mecca of thousands of patriotic citizens, who cross the Potomac to assist the Grand Army of the Republic in paying homage to their departed comrades. The President usually honors the Department of the Potomac with his presence, and the best orators of the country supply the eloquence. Also in this neighborhood is to be erected the National Memorial Bridge. This structure, which is an assured fact, is to be erected by the National Government at a cost of about $5,000,000. It will span the Potomac at about three-quarters of a mile north of this site, connecting the new South to the old North, and forming one of the links in the chain that binds forever the two sections in one indivisible and united country. How appropriate it seems to us that we should have our college located where it would be another link in that chain, another factor to this end. Then we come to the site itself. We do not think we shall ever forget the impressions caused by our first visit. We were carried through a foliage so thick it was difficult for a horse and carriage to pass. On all sides grew trees both large and small, affording a shade which, together with the high elevation, gave the atmosphere an enjoyable and refreshing coolness. We saw the remains of Fort Scott, which played such a conspicuous part in the defense of Washington. The parapets and trenches are on this ground, and still in a fair state of preservation. On coming into an open space we saw before us a panorama of exquisite grandeur. The trees and foliage were in their brightest green and the wild flowers in bloom. At our feet flowed the waters of the historic Potomac, while on the other shore lay the most beautiful city in the world. The Capitol, Congressional Library, State, War and Navy Department, Treasury Department, in fact, all the public buildings in plain view, as well as Soldiers' Home, Washington Monument and the Naval Observatory, while a short distance from this place you can see as far down the river as Fort Washington. We know that our time and yours forbids an extensive description of these surroundings, so we will close this portion of our brief with a statement that one of the first engineering feats of General Washington is a small brick bridge, very near this property, while Mount Vernon road, which passes this place, leads to the historic city of Alexandria, where he worshipped; and to Mount Vernon, his home while living and his resting place dead. No better or more appropriate site could be selected were we to search from Maine to the Philippines.

We will now consider the location from an historical standpoint. We think it will be admitted that our claims on this score are far superior to any place in the country. You cannot speak of the place without mentioning its history; in fact, the history of Washington is the history of the United States. Within a few miles of the first settlement and right in the midst of all our conflicts, this section has always been the field of interest to the student of history. From the first breath of freedom which came from this section, down to the struggle most near to our lives and dear to our hearts, Washington was the centre towards which all eyes were turned. In war and in peace, in prosperity and panic, the eyes of the nation were riveted on the spot where they sent their best brains and truest hearts to administer to their official wants. And need we recall the center of interest in the struggle that we commemorate? Every member knows that from the thunder-clap of Sumter to the glorious sunburst at Appomattox, the field of anxiety, the field of hope and the field of sorrow was around Washington. Within plain view are the defenses about Washington: Forts Lincoln, Thayer, Slemer, Saratoga, Totten, Slocum. Stevens, De Russe, where, on the 12th day of July, 1864, the city of Washington was defended against Jubal Early's army of thirty thousand veterans, until the arrival of the Sixth Army Corps from the defenses at Petersburg. The students could, without much trouble or expense, visit the battlefields of Bull Run, Leesburg, Balls Bluff, Fredericksburg, Hampton Roads, Manassas, South Mountain, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and the many battlefields around Richmond; Cold Harbor, Seven Pines, The Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Spottsylvania Court House, North Anna River, Chickahominy, Fort Powhatan, Petersburg, Reams Station, South Side Road, Weldon Road, Harper's Ferry, and the Shenandoah Valley, where Sheridan made his famous ride. Is not such a location an education in itself for a student of military science? We sincerely trust that this part of our argument will be given careful consideration.

Considered from a geographical standpoint, we wish to state that while we think our claims are not inferior to any other locality mentioned for this honor, we do not think the location should be considered very seriously from this point of view The persons most

concerned would have to make one trip there when entering and another one home when graduating. The railroad facilities for these trips could hardly be exceeded. The great systems of the Baltimore & Ohio, Pennsylvania, Chesapeake & Ohio, Southern, and the Norfolk & Western, all center into and pass through this city. In fact, Washington can be reached now in one-fifth the time from California that it took to come from Massachusetts when the present site of the National Capital was selected. And if the geographical centre was not considered then, when it was as difficult to travel twenty miles as it is four hundred now, it strikes us it is a poor point to raise at this time. And besides, we would remind the Encampment that the map of the world is changing daily and, thanks be to God; we have now reached that stage of our national existence, that when the destinies of nations are being shaped, the United States has to be consulted. Every year adds to the territory that comes under the beneficent protection of the American flag. Without desiring to talk in any way on a political subject, we would remind the Encampment that the geographical center of the country one hundred years ago was not where it is at present, and the geographical center one hundred years from now will not be where it is today. So, my brothers, let us remember that we are building this college for the future more than for the present; then let us look forward a few years and consider the time when Washington will be the hub around which the whole world will revolve, and then let us ask if it is not the geographical as well as the political center of the country. If there is any center to be considered at all, it is the civic center, and Washington is much nearer that than any locality mentioned for this honor.

Treating this subject from a financial standpoint, we will ask the brothers to bear in mind that we have not been active in this matter until after our last Division Encampment. A few of us have from time to time advocated the National Capital as the proper site, but we hesitated about active participation until after the Division Encampment. At the Encampment at Phœbus, Va., June 12 to 14, the project was endorsed and a committee appointed. We organized and got to work. The first thing was to secure a site. On July 19th (note the short space of time) we received an offer from Mr. Hume of this beautiful tract of land. It was now summer, Congress had adjourned and the moneyed men were out of town, so we spent our time trying to increase the size of our land donation. I think we can safely say that this will be accomplished by an increase of one-half, by the adjoining property holders. Of course we have the pledge of the Board of Trade and the Business Men's Association that help will be extended us if we locate here, and I can tell you, brothers, the words of 750 business men should not be lightly considered. But the main source of financial support that will come to us should be from Congress. We have the pledge of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the word of Senator Thurston, when we say that an appropriation can most likely be secured from Congress, especially if it is shown that we are doing something ourselves. The senator unqualifiedly endorses Washington as the proper site for an institution of this kind, and his political experience tells him that it is much easier to get an appropriation through if the college is so situated that Congress can see with their own eyes just what is being done. Of course, brothers, we expect to hear of what this State will do or that State can do, but we can assure you that no one State can do more than forty-five States. Then, too, support coming from this direction would make it a national affair indeed. There can be no disputing the fact that by placing this college at the door of the Capitol you increase a hundredfold its chances of an appropriation. Then the chances of financial support after it is established are much greater, because we are nearer the civic center than any place mentioned; because the citizenship is more cosmopolitan, because of the number of colleges adjacent, but which do not teach military science and tactics, and last, but not least, on account of the great amount of free advertising it would get from this quarter. My brothers, we cannot give this side of the subject too much weight. A great many of you are business men and know the value of advertising. Your ledgers show it is an expensive item. And if you could move your place of business to a locality where you could get thousands of dollars worth of advertising free you no doubt would do so. Well, we not only offer the site free, but the advertising also. I have told you of the prominence of this place by reason of its altitude. It can be seen from hundreds of places in Washington, and the conspicuousness would be of great advantage. Then, again, we would remind you that more people visit Washington throughout the year than any one other locality in the country, not even excepting the big commercial centers, and the wonderful cataract, Niagara Falls. Shortly before we left town there was an excursion from Pennsylvania. We don't know how many came down, but 19,600 visited the Congressional Library. Just think of it, brothers, that does not include the thousands of others we didn't hear of, and it's all one day's enumeration. It is a certainty that if this college is located on

this site it would he visited by a great majority of the visitors to the National Capital. We have told you of the thousands who visit Arlington, and as we would be almost next door neighhors, could not help being visited. Then consider the thousands who see Mt. Vernon, and then remember that it is impossible to go to Mt. Vernon without passing this property. I am not speaking disparagingly of other localities when I say that more visitors would see this college in one day if it is located at Washington, than would see it in a year at any other place that solicits the site. And remember it does not end with seeing it. They will go home and talk about it. Imagine the benefit to he derived from thousands and thousands of people going home to all sections of the country and saying, "I visited the Sons of Veteran's Memorial Military College."

We will now treat it from a hygienic standpoint. It is very important that every element of health should be considered. The main ground is on a plateau situated one hundred and eighty feet above the river, and higher than any other point around Washington. There is a spring adjoining these grounds that was once the hlessing of New York and Michigan regiments who camped on these very grounds. The water is unsurpassed. We are told of a family of twelve adults that lives in the immediate neighhorhood that have not had a professional visit from a physician for more than thirty years.

I will now call your attention to a few minor advantages, hut which should have careful consideration.

The proximity of the American University, Georgetown University, Catholic University, Episcopal University, Howard University, Columbian University, the many schools of languages; access to the second largest library in the world; also the Carnegie Library, the various libraries connected with the different Government offices; within walking distance of Fort Meyer, a permanent army post, the presence within our midst of so many army and navy officers on detached and active service; also the many other reasons not herein mentioned, but which must suggest themselves to any acquainted with the National Capital.

We are one of the oldest Divisions in the Order, and for the first time in our history come before you with a favor to ask. And yet we request it not as a favor, for we think that the success of the enterprise, to a very great extent, depends on your selecting Washington as the site. We would think so even if we had to purchase every foot of ground and every inch of timher. So consider the responsibility of your vote. We are asking you to vote for a place that every member of this Encampment can really call his home, for Washington belongs to you all.

And now in conclusion, hrothers, let there be no douht as to our ahility to build this college. Our membership is sufficient to push anything we undertake to a successful conclusion, provided we enter into it in the right spirit. Such an effort is not only a memorial to our fathers, but a monument to ourselves. Let us remember the words of Richelieu: "In the lexicon of youth, that fate reserves for a hright manhood, there's no such word as 'fail.'"

Then let us build the college, and that it shall he the success that it merits, let us begin right by locating it where it will be a national affair indeed. Plant it on the shores of the old Potomac, near to the heart of Maryland, "My Maryland," on the borderland of "Dixie." There indeed would it he a memorial. It would rise from the ground, made sacred by our father's blood, a monument to their valors and their sacrifices, while out of its doors would come the future heroes of the land, educated, not only in military science and tactics, hut the administrative details of the hest government that God ever let the light of His glorious sun shine on. They would go out prepared to fight life's hattle with a hetter appreciation of our fathers' services, and ready to lay down their lives for the principles for which they fought and which we perpetuate.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander-in-Chief, Brothers of the Commandery-in-Chief, you have heard the report of the committee, which has clearly and fully presented all the propositions that have been submitted for your consideration. I believe, as surely as I stand here, that you are in the same position on these propositions as I am, that you are just as ready now to vote upon them as I am, and in order to test your feelings upon that matter, I move that we now proceed to vote on this proposition.

The Commander-in-Chief: Commander Archer of Ohio moves the previous question. Is it seconded by two Divisions other than Ohio?

F. H. B. McDowell of Wisconsin: Commander, I second the motion.

S. S. Horn of Pennsylvania: Commander, I second the motion.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is a vote upon the main question. Shall the main question be now put?

The Chair put the motion and the previous question was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is now, Shall the words "Mason City" be stricken out and the words "Washington, D.C.," inserted?

E. R. Campbell of Maryland: Commander, I move that the roll be called.

The motion was seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: It is not necessary that a motion be made. It may be a proper demand.

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: Commander, question of information. The amendment says "Washington, D.C.;" the proposition reads "Virginia" Which is correct?

The Commander-in-Chief: I understood the motion to be to strike out "Mason City" and insert "Washington, D.C." Am I right, Brother Whitmore?

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: That is right.

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Do I understand that pending the taking of a vote a member can get up and ask for a roll call?

The Commander-in-Chief: The roll has been called for. If Commander Archer will look at the rule on pages 84 and 85, he will see it is very plain. The yeas and nays may be required and entered upon the minutes at the call of any three members. Three members demand a roll call. The Adjutant-General will proceed with the roll call upon the motion.

E. R. Campbell of Maryland: Commander, in order to save time, this is in the hands of the Encampment; I will withdraw my motion for a roll call.

James H. Tawney of Pennsylvania: Is the amendment "Washington, D.C.," or does it mean "Virginia"?

The Commander-in-Chief: I understood it "Washington, D.C."

James H. Tawney of Pennsylvania: Wasn't it "Virginia"?

The Commander-in-Chief: I don't know, sir.

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: I am very sorry the technicality is raised. We had only the best interests of the Order at heart. Personally, I am willing to work for it any place, and when I made that amendment, this property was so near adjoining, just the dividing line, Washington being on one side of the river and this on the other side, and of course it was an oversight on my part.

James H. Tawney of Pennsylvania: I simply wanted the information that I might vote intelligently. I believe myself that Washington, D.C., and not some Pacific State is the place for the college.

The Commander-in-Chief: An aye vote, as I understood the motion of Commander Whitmore, would be in favor of locating it at Washington, D.C.; that is, it will be a vote in favor of striking out "Mason City" and inserting "Washington, D.C."

Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I arise to a point of information. One year ago at the Encampment at Detroit, it was determined, when this committee was appointed, that at this meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief we should vote by ballot as to the location of the Military College. Now, we are proceeding in a manner in violation of the law which created this committee itself. Will a *viva voce* vote of any kind be a vote by ballot? This committee was appointed to invite propositions and submit them to this Encampment, at which time a ballot should be taken upon the different places suggested.

Frank K. Maples of New York: Are there any other cities that have submitted propositions, or are desirous of this college?

The Commander-in-Chief: I understand that there are, but they are not at this moment before the Encampment.

Frank K. Maples of New York: If it would be in order I would offer a substitute.

The Commander-in-Chief: Too late, too late, you have ordered the previous question.

The question is upon the motion of Brother Whitmore of Maryland to strike out "Mason City" and insert "Washington, D.C." Upon that a roll call has been demanded, and the Adjutant-General will proceed to call the roll.

NATIONAL MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY LOCATED.

The Adjutant-General called the roll and announced that there was cast in favor of the substitution ten votes, and against the substitution one hundred and forty-three votes, the vote by Divisions being as follows: —

	YES.	NO.
Alabama and Tennessee		2
California		1
Connecticut		6
Illinois		12
Indiana	1	7
Iowa		13
Kansas		1
Maine		2
Maryland	7	
Michigan		4
Massachusetts		12
Minnesota		4
Nebraska		6
New Hampshire		3
New Jersey		3
Ohio		9
New York	2	16
Pennsylvania		27
Rhode Island		7
South Dakota		4
Wisconsin		4
	10	143

The Commander-in-Chief: The motion is disagreed to.

The question is upon the adoption of the resolution of the commitee.

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: Commander, Maryland Division wishes to say, we accept the voice of this Encampment, and we pledge ourselves that we will work just as hard and faithfully as we can for

the success of this enterprise. [Applause.] We ask to withdraw the demand for a separation of the question.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Whitmore asks that he be permitted to withdraw his demand for a separation of the several questions. Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. The question is then upon the adoption of the report of the committee as a whole. You of the opinion that that motion be agreed to, arise. There is no use calling the other side, it is unanimous. [Great applause and prolonged cheering.]

Chairman Sortor: Commander, the Committee upon National Military College desires me, at this time, to say to Brother Whitmore, and the brothers of the Maryland Division, that we do not believe that he meant it when he said that we took undue advantage of our official position.

Geo. S. Whitmore of Maryland: Commander, I wish to apologize for that remark.

FLORAL PIECE PRESENTED.

At this time a beautiful floral tribute was presented, as the gift of Past Commander-in-Chief George W. Marks of Brooklyn, N.Y., who, being unable to be present, sent it with his best wishes for a successful Encampment. The floral piece was appropriately inscribed "Nineteenth National Encampment: New York Division Welcomes Sons of Veterans, Syracuse, N.Y., Sept. 11–13, 1900."

The Commander-in-Chief: I have no doubt that this Encampment is very grateful to Past Commander-in-Chief Marks for this beautiful tribute.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Adjutant-General: The Committee on Credentials wish to report the name of Delegate R. J. Bosworth of Indiana, and move he be given a seat in this Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair hears no objection and he will be seated.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON WILLIAM E. HOWARD.

The Commander-in-Chief: I recognize Comrade Hull, Member of Congress from Iowa. [Great applause.]

Chairman J. A. T. Hull: Commander, members of the Encampment, I am unfortunately not the son of a veteran, but I am a veteran, and the next thing to being the son of a veteran is to be the veteran himself.

I was somewhat surprised at being appointed a chairman of a committee to report to this body, and I feel a little delicacy in reading the report today, but my associates on the committee were unanimously of the opinion that your good Commander-in-Chief always knew what he was doing, and that if he put me on this committee it was proper for me to read a report to this body.

The Commander-in-Chief: That is right.

Chairman Hull: Of course it is a matter of gratification to me to be able to stand here and look in the faces of the men, who in a very

few years must take up the work of the Grand Army of the Republic, and carry on the lessons of patriotism that were taught upon the battle-fields of the South during the four years of the war, and have come down to you as a legacy, the proudest heritage that can be given to the American boy, to the son of an American soldier. [Applause.] And especially — I trust you will pardon me, I did not intend to make a speech, but you have me on the platform — especially of the soldier that wrote history with a new pen, fought battles and accomplished results that will last and be enduring monuments of their achievements as long as civil liberty is cherished among the nations of the world. [Applause.] And gentlemen, I want to say to you, that one of the most grateful results of the war has been demonstrated to the old soldiers of the Civil War during the last two years. When the cry came for soldiers, the North and the South, uniting shoulder to shoulder the sons of the blue and the gray, to carry the starry banner of the Republic to victory, raised it so high that all people, and all nations of the world, can bow down and do homage to it. [Applause.]

We of the Civil War, thank God, have lived to the day when we are a nation, North and South, prosperous, happy and loyal and true, and we can depart from the scenes of our labors, when our time comes, knowing our sons will be as heroic and brave and as true to the flag as their fathers were in the days of the Civil War. [Applause.]

And now, if you will pardon the garrulous old man, I will read the report. I hope I have it headed right, General.

Chairman Hull then read the following report: —

To the Officers and Members of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.:

Your committee to investigate and report upon the matter of the furlough or discharge from the army in the Philippines of Wm. E. Howard of Michigan beg leave to report, that the Secretary of War, by order of the President of the United States, has given full power to the Commander of our army in the Philippines to furlough or discharge soldiers, as occasion may require. The Department at Washington is so far from seat of operations in the islands of the far East that the Secretary will not take action on individual cases, and in the interest of sick soldiers has provided a means for immediate relief by authorities on the ground who are familiar with all the facts in each individual case.

Your committee therefore recommend that this Encampment take no action on this or any similar cases.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. T. HULL, *Chairman*, Iowa.
FRANK K. MAPLES, New York.
CHARLES K. DARLING, Massachusetts.
C. W. STAPLES, Vermont.
C. J. POST, Michigan.

Frank K. Maples of New York: Commander, as a member of that committee, I move you, sir, that the report of the committee be accepted and adopted.

The Commander-in-Chief: A motion is entirely unnecessary. It is the report of our committee. The question is upon the adoption of the report.

The Chair put the question on the adoption of the report and its recommendations, and it was agreed to.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RITUAL.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Committee on Ritual, I understand, is ready to report.

J. L. Rake, Chairman of the Committee, then read the report as follows: —

To the Officers and Members of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A.:

The Committee on Ritual, after consideration and conference with members representing the several sections of the country, believe that the present Ritual is all that is required for the successful muster of recruits in an impressive way. We agree with the Commander-in-Chief that there is a need for an addition that will add life and zest to the work and furnish innocent amusement for our younger members more particularly. We are certain that such an addition — call it a side-degree, if you will — cannot be satisfactorily prepared in the limited time at the disposal of this committee, and suggest the appointment of a committee of three who are so located as to make their meeting together possible without incurring much expense, with directions to procure or prepare a suitable addition to our Ritual, and to arrange to have the same exemplified at the next session of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. RAKE, *Chairman*,
W. L. BARNUM, JR.,
CHAS C. STULL,
C. M. RAWITZER,
J. W. T. AMES,
Committee.

Chairman Rake: I will say to you, Commander-in-Chief, that since this report has been decided upon, we have had the offer of, at least, one side-degree, free of charge.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon the adoption of the report and recommendations of the committee.

The Chair then put the question and it was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair will appoint one member of that committee, which will be General Rake, as chairman of the committee, and will announce the balance later.

I want to say that Past Commander-in-Chief Reed need not think he can get out of work by staying away until this late hour. I have put him upon the Committee on C., R. & R., and expect he will do his duty.

RECESS TILL 1.30 O'CLOCK P.M.

It was moved and seconded that the Encampment take a recess until 1.30 o'clock P.M. The motion was agreed to.

WEDNESDAY — AFTERNOON SESSION.

1.30 o'clock P.M.

Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Encampment will come to order. Brother K. B. Czarneki of Illinois will act as Guard at the door. Commander Ames of Wisconsin will act as Inspector-General and ascertain if all present are entitled to remain.

The Acting Inspector-General reported all present entitled to remain.

ELECTION OF REGENTS FOR MILITARY COLLEGE.

Wm. G. Dustin of Illinois: Commander, I move that A. L. Sortor, Jr., Wm. T. Church, Geo. E. Cox, H. E. Cowdin and W. A. Morris, the committee of five that served as the Committee on Military College, be elected Regents of the Military College.

The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: We will listen to the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Chairman F. T. F. Johnson: The Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations submit the following report: —

Recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Inspector-General we recommend be not concurred in. They relate to a change in the mode of inspection.

Recommendation No. 1 is as follows: —

"That a military rank be established under the supervision of the Commandery-in-Chief. This rank to be composed of Camps or parts of Camps, and to have no legislative powers as affecting the Order, and to be under the supervision of its own officers, and to be inspected according to military procedure. The Chief Inspector of the military rank to render, through its commanding officer, an annual report to the Commandery-in-Chief. This military rank to elect its own officers according to military customs, and its commanding officer to be a member of the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief. The position of the Commander-in-Chief relative to the military rank to be similar to governors of States relative to their respective military bodies. The military rank to be composed of company, battalion, regimental and brigade organizations on lines similar to the Sons of Veterans of Pennsylvania. Special provision to be made for States in which the carrying of arms is prohibited by law."

The committee recommend that this recommendation be not concurred in.

Frank L. Shepard of Illinois: Commander, I move that this report be taken up section by section, and unless there is objection each section stand adopted. The motion was seconded.

The Chair put the question and it was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair hears no objection and the recommendation of the committee is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: Recommendation No. 2: —

"That the order be placed upon a civil basis, and that present regulations regarding uniforms be rescinded, and that the members, not of the military rank, wear civil dress. That present titles of all officers be changed and titles of a civil nature adopted."

The committee recommend that this be not concurred in.

The Commander-in-Chief: Any objection to the report of the committee on this section? The Chair hears none. The recommendation of the committee is adopted.

Chairman Johnson: Recommendation No. 3: —

"That the Inspection Department be conducted as follows: This department to receive annual reports from each Camp in the Order, through the various Division Inspectors. All Camp reports to be filled out by Captains of Camps, and to be attested by First Sergeants and endorsed by a majority of the camp council. These reports to contain such information and statistics as may be required by the Commander-in-Chief. All statistics relative to membership numerically, and finances, to be secured by the Adjutant-General's and Quartermaster-General's departments Each Division Inspector to consolidate reports received from Camps in his Division and to render consolidated reports to the Inspector-General, and the Inspector-General to render report to the Commandery-in-Chief through the Adjutant-General. Assistant Inspectors-General to be appointed by the Inspector-General, with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief for the headquarters of each Division. Assistant Inspectors-General to make a thorough examination of all books, papers, vouchers, bonds, etc., and to render a report to the Inspector-General who shall consolidate the same for the Commandery-in-Chief."

The committee recommend that this section be not concurred in.

The Commander-in-Chief: There being no objection the report of the committee is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: Recommendation No. 4: —

That it shall be the duty of the Inspector-General to prepare and submit to the Commandery-in-Chief recommendations and forms of inspection blanks for use during the succeeding term.

Not concurred in.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair hears no objection. The report of the committee is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: Recommendation No. 5: —

That the annual inspection of the Order shall occur between the first of January and the first of March of each year, and that all reports shall be forwarded to the Inspector-General before the first of May of each year.

Concurred in.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the report of the committee agreed to? The Chair hears no objection. It is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: The following is a recommendation of the Adjutant-General: —

"Considerable misunderstanding, and some annoyance, is caused to these headquarters, and to Division headquarters, in the manner of making returns and the payment of funds, by the conflictions in the Constitution A comparison of Section 3, Article V., Chapter III., and Section 6, Article V., Chapter IV., with Section 1, Article III., Chapter V , will show very clearly why these difficulties arise. I therefore recommend that this Encampment take the necessary action for the correction of these evils, and in connection therewith it seems to me proper that as Division Commanders are bonded for the financial security of the funds handled by their staff officers, that they should be permitted to direct in orders the officers to whom they desire financial returns made."

Upon this recommendation the committee recommend the following amendment: That in Chapter V., Article III., Section 1 of the C., R. & R., line 9, the word "Quartermaster" be stricken out and the

word "Adjutant" substituted, so that this section when so amended will read as follows: —

SECTION 1. The Commandery-in-Chief shall, at its stated yearly meeting, assess a *per capita* tax on each Division of not exceeding twenty cents on each and every member in good standing; the said tax shall be payable in four instalments of equal parts, and the same shall be forwarded by Division Quartermaster to the Adjutant-General on or before the last days of January, April, July and October.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the report upon that subject agreed to? The Chair hears no objection. It is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: Recommendation from Division of Connecticut as follows: —

"The delegation from Connecticut Division recommend that all bonds required as per C., R. & R shall be furnished by a Surety Bond Company. Said bonds to be paid for by the Commandery-in-Chief, Division or Camp, as may be required. Yours in F., C. and L.,

L. S. CHAPMAN,
Division Commander."

The committee recommend that this be not concurred in.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the report of the committee agreed to upon this subject?

Objection being made, the Chair put the question on adoption of the recommendation of the committee, and after discussion, it was agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: We recommend that Chapter III., Article 1, Section 1, be so amended to read as follows: —

Whenever five Camps exist in any State or Territory the same may be organized as a Division. Whenever there exists in any State or Territory a less number of Camps than five, the same may be attached to some other Division, or again made a Provisional Division, and the officers thereof to be appointed from the membership of such Division by the Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: No objection being made the recommendation is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: We have a resolution from the Division of California, recommending a change in the Constitution, providing for life members. It provides that all Sons of Veterans who have already attained the age of sixty-five, and all those who hereafter shall have attained that age shall be exempt from *per capita* tax. The committee recommends non-concurrence.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to the report? The Chair hears none, and the recommendation is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: Wisconsin Division recommends: —

"That the C , R. & R. be so amended that reports of Camps to Division headquarters be made semi-annually instead of quarterly as at present."

The committee recommend that this be non-concurred in.

The Commander-in-Chief: Any objection? The Chair hears no objection and the report is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: The next is a recommendation by the Chaplain-in-Chief, in which he recommends that some action be taken to

place a penalty on Camps who fail to turn in their reports. The recommendation is as follows: —

"We recommend that some action be taken by this Encampment which shall impose penalty on Camps failing to report to their Division Chaplains, and Divisions failing to report to the Chaplain-in-Chief, and we would suggest that such penalty be exclusion from representation in Division Encampment and in the Commandery-in-Chief respectively"

In this connection I would say this recommendation is amply covered in Chapter V., Article IV., Section 1. By this section Camps or Divisions are deprived of representation in the Division Encampment or in the Commandery-in-Chief, upon failure to make all reports as called for by the rules of the Order.

The Chaplain-in-Chief: Is it not true there has been a decision given by some Commander-in-Chief which is contrary to law?

The Commander-in-Chief: General Bundy informs me that decision was made by him but it was before this section was adopted.

The report of the committee is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: A communication from the Division of Maryland. They recommend: —

"That the Commander-in-Chief appoint a State Organizer to organize Camps throughout the United States, and that the expenses thereof be met by the Commandery-in-Chief, and that each Camp so organized pay to the organizer the sum of ten dollars."

The committee recommend that this be not concurred in.

The Commander-in-Chief: Any objection to the report? The Chair hears none. It is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: Communication from Pennsylvania as follows: —

"The following is respectfully submitted by the Pennsylvania Division for the cousideration of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment of 1900.

First. That the ritual be so modified as to make compulsory only the roll call of officers and staff.

Second. That the Captain of a Camp be authorized to direct the Sergeant of the Guard to communicate the password and countersign to those entitled during the opening ceremonies of the Camp.

Yours fraternally, S. W. MACURDY,
Division Commander."

The committee recommend that this be not concurred in.

S. S. Horn of Pennsylvania: I move that the report be not concurred in.

The motion was seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: No use of a motion there. The question occurs upon agreeing to the report of the committee.

The Chair put the question on the recommendation of the committee and it was not agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: It will take some action on that now.

S. S. Horn of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move the recommendations of the Pennsylvania Division be approved and the Constitution so modified.

The motion was seconded after discussion.

The Commander-in-Chief: We are only legislating an effect. You haven't it in form so it can go in our Constitution. I think it

should be put in form, Commander Horn, and then it is entirely proper. Take your section and amend it and offer it as a resolution and the Chair will recognize you at any time. Proceed.

Chairman Johnson: Another communication from the Division of Pennsylvania, as follows: —

"The following is respectfully submitted by the Pennsylvania Division for the consideration of the Commandery-in-Chief Encampment of 1900.

That the C., R. & R be so modified that a dispensation may be granted to muster in recruits, who for some reason may be unable to present themselves within the stated three months time.

That the C., R. & R. be so modified as to allow Camps to elect each year one member of Camp Council for a period of three years.

Yours fraternally,

S. W. MACURDY,
Division Commander."

The committee recommend non-concurrence in this communication.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to the report? The Chair hears none. It is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: Communication from the Division of Nebraska. To amend Section 2, Article III., Chapter V., so that it will read: —

"Each Division Encampment shall, at its stated yearly meeting, assess a *per capita* tax on each Camp within its jurisdiction, not exceeding two dollars on each and every member in good standing."

I would say in connection with this that the present limit is one dollar. This seems to be a recommendation to raise the *per capita* tax in some Divisions to two dollars. The committee report it without recommendation.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon agreeing to the proposition of the Division of Nebraska. The committee report it without recommendation, and it therefore comes before you for your action.

The question was put and agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: Communication from the Division of Pennsylvania as follows: —

"I beg to offer the following for consideration by this Encampment:

That the C., R. & R. be so modified as to allow Camps to carry on their rolls beyond the specified time, by paying the *per capita* tax, such members who are over six months and one year in arrears who now, by virtue of the law, or its interpretation, are immediately in suspension, or who cease to be members as soon as they are in arrears six months or one year respectively.

Respectfully submitted in F., C and L.,

S. S. HORN,
Past Division Commander."

Chairman Johnson: The committee recommend that this be non-concurred in.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to the report of the committee?

RECEPTION OF COMMITTEE FROM WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

The Commander-in-Chief: We will have to interrupt here. We have a special business to attend to with the ladies, and it would be

discourteous not to receive them now. If you will suspend business we will receive them. The committee appointed will receive the ladies and escort them to the Encampment.

George W. Politt of New Jersey: This is a delegation of the Woman's Relief Corps of this city. It is not the Ladies' Aid.

The Commander-in-Chief: The committee may escort them to the Encampment.

The committee retired and returned escorting the delegation to the platform, which consisted of Sarah E. Fulton, Department President, W.R.C. of New York; Mrs. Philips, National Treasurer; Mrs. Sarah C. Nichols, Past Department President; and Mrs. Ella B. Scott, Member of Executive Board.

The members of the delegation were introduced to the Commandery-in-Chief, and each, in well chosen remarks, presented their greetings and well wishes to the members of the Encampment, which were received with hearty applause.

The Commander-in-Chief then called on Brother H. C. Dana of Rhode Island, to respond to the words of encouragement and cheer from the visiting delegation, which pleasant duty was performed in a fitting manner.

The visiting delegation then retired.

The Commander-in-Chief (referring to business in order): The question was upon permitting the Camps to carry members who were more than six months or a year in arrears for dues, and as I understand the report of the committee was not favorable to the proposition.

After discussion: —

L. A. Dilley of Iowa: Commander, I move that as a substitute for the Resolution ——

The Commander-in-Chief: You cannot do that.

L. A. Dilley of Iowa: I move then that we amend the report of the committee to read as follows: "Chapter V., Article IV., Section 3, strike out the first three lines of the section which reads 'Any member, etc.,' and insert 'Any member of a Camp six months in arrears in the payment of his dues may be suspended by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting;' and then that we strike out this part at the end of the section which says: 'Providing, however, that when a brother is unable to pay, etc.'"

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair would have to require that you put it in writing. We can't take it in the air. The question is upon agreeing to the report of the committee. Is there any objection? The Chair hears none? It is agreed to.

Chairman Johnson: We recommend that Section 3 of Article XV., Chapter V., General Rules and Regulations, be amended to read as follows: —

"The recognition badge of the Order shall be a buttonhole decoration in the form of a bar of red, white and blue enamel, or ribbon, according to sample on file in the office of the Quartermaster-General."

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the report upon that subject agreed to? The Chair hears no objection. It is agreed to.

RECEPTION OF COMMITTEE FROM LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

The Commander-in-Chief: I understand the delegation from the Ladies' Aid is here. The committee appointed to escort the ladies will present them to the Encampment.

The committee retired and returned, escorting Miss Chatto of the Maine Division; Miss Lillie B. K. Herbst, Past Division President of the Ohio Division; Miss Jennie McBride, President L.A.S., Paterson, N.J.; Mrs. Lida E. Tomer, National Treasurer, and Mrs. Scheninger, President L.A.S., Syracuse, N.Y., who were introduced to the Encampment, and in response to an invitation from the Commander-in-Chief each spoke briefly and presented their fraternal greetings and best wishes to the Encampment, which were received with hearty applause.

The Commander-in-Chief called upon Past Commander-in-Chief R. M. J. Reed of Pennsylvania and Past Commander George Addington of New York to respond to the generous greetings of the ladies, and they performed their duty in a very able and pleasing way.

The ladies then retired.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Committee on C., R & R., will now report the resolution offered by Commander Macurdy.

Chairman Johnson: Add to the Ritual on page 10, Order of Business, to read as follows: "The roll call of the entire membership of a Camp is optional; but the roll call of the officers and staff shall never be omitted." Amend the Ritual on page 7, 5th, 6th and 7th lines, by striking out the words "he will direct them to report to his station and communicate to them the proper password and countersign" and insert in lieu thereof the words, "He will direct the Sergeant of the Guard to communicate to them the proper password and countersign."

The Commander-in-Chief: Does the committee report it?

Chairman Johnson: Yes.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon agreeing to the recommendation of the committee. Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. It is adopted.

Chairman Johnson: The committee recommend that Chapter V., Article XX., Section 2, line 5 of C., R. & R., be amended by striking out the word "degree" and inserting the word "sentiment."

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection to agreeing to the recommendation of the committee? The Chair hears none. It is adopted.

Chairman Johnson: That concludes the report of the committee.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: Commander, the Council-in-Chief is ready to make a further report. A communication from the attorney of Mrs. A. P. Davis has been submitted to the Council-in-Chief. By the will of Major Davis five hundred dollars was left to the Sons of Veterans, and two hundred and fifty dollars to the Ladies' Aid Society. When the estate is settled the gross amount left will be not more than sixteen thousand dollars. That includes personal property, real estate and so on. He feels that the income from the property will

be a meagre one. This letter addressed to her has been handed to the Council-in-Chief, asking that this amount be returned. The Council-in-Chief recommend that the proper authorities of the incoming administration be authorized to return this money to the widow of Major Davis. Not for sentimental reasons, but simply as a matter of business. It will place us then where we can deal with Mrs. Davis in our business transactions. We so move that it be recommended.

The letter referred to by Past Commander Patton is as follows: —

"PITTSBURGH, Pa., Sept. 5, 1900.

Mrs. A. P. DAVIS.

My dear Madam: It seems proper at this time that I should call your attention to your financial condition and make to you a few suggestions in regard to the same. The estate which your husband left you, after the payment of all debts, will amount to, in round numbers, about sixteen thousand dollars, and that depends largely upon what you can obtain for your residence, which as you see is not very much, especially when you consider that you are entirely without any one to depend upon. At present, with your property unsold, your income is, comparatively speaking, a meagre one

Under the will of the late Maj. A. P. Davis he devised five hundred dollars to the Sons of Veterans of the National Encampment and two hundred and fifty dollars to the Ladies' Auxiliary of the National Encampment, directing that these sums should be used in such manner as would commemorate his memory. In all probability when the Major made his will and left these devices he estimated his estate at a much greater value than it really was and has proven to be. Now my suggestion to you would be to lay this matter before the National Encampment, whenever they may meet, or their proper officers in the meantime, and ask that a resolution be passed releasing you from the payment of the same, for the reason that it will cripple you in obtaining the necessaries of life and that after all the best way to commemorate the memory of Major Davis is to see that his widow is sufficiently provided for during her lifetime. That this money can be of no benefit to the Encampment,— that they can use it for nothing except that which will in some manner commemorate his memory, such as a monument or some other sentimental object, and therefore it would be the proper and happy thing to release you from the payment of these sums. I think that the Encampment owes it to you and to the late Major Davis to do this. I would suggest that you lay this matter before some good friend of yours in the Encampment and let him take charge of it for you.

Yours truly,

L. M. PLUMER."

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Commander, I think Brother Patton stated the case, not exactly as those who have been connected with it and thoroughly understand, would state it. With his permission I will try to make it a little clearer. Major Davis in his will left five hundred dollars to the Sons of Veterans which was somewhat conditional. It was practically to the effect, that while we could have the five hundred dollars, it was to be expended with the advice of the widow. In other words, it was undoubtedly Major Davis' idea that the Sons of Veterans would put five hundred dollars more with it, and with the one thousand dollars would erect a monument to his memory. That five hundred dollars has never been demanded from the estate, and the two years not having expired, now the attorney for her writes a letter setting forth her financial condition, and asks her to get some friend to have the proper officers of the Commandery-in-Chief release the estate from the payment of that five hundred dollars. The Council-in-Chief, after considering the matter, and wishing to release the Order

from any implied obligation one way or the other, recommend to this Encampment that the incoming officers, whose duty it may be, shall execute the proper release of this bequest of the five hundred dollars.

Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio: I would like to ask Brother Abbott if he has seen a copy of Major Davis' will containing this provision?

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Yes, sir.

Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio: Is that on file?

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Yes, sir.

Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio: Would it not be better to leave this matter to the discretion of the incoming officers rather than make it mandatory?

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: The Council-in-Chief accept the suggestion that it be left to the discretion of the incoming administration.

The Commander-in-Chief: As I understand, the recommendation now is that the matter be referred to the incoming Council-in-Chief.

Geo. W. Politt of New Jersey: I would like to ask if this is in lieu of any business arrangement that may be made with Mrs. Davis, that will take into consideration the purchase of the supplies she has on hand?

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: No. It has nothing to do with that. We have no contract with her at all. We are entirely released, in a business way. If the Quartermaster-General requires any stock which she may have, if he can purchase it at satisfactory terms from her he does it, but we are under no obligations.

S. W. Macurdy of Pennsylvania: Commander, this communication came to me at noon today from Mrs. Davis, and having very carefully examined a copy of this will, I understand that if this money comes into the possession of the Commandery-in-Chief it will be in their possession simply as a trust. After examining it very carefully, and consulting with some brothers, I turned it over to the Council-in-Chief with the suggestion that the case take this course if it met with the approval of the Council-in-Chief. I want to say that General Abbott stated the case exactly as it is. The will simply gives this as a trust, and all the legacies left by Major Davis to the Sons of Veterans, Ladies' Aid and Davis Camp are a trust entailed, to be spent under the direction of his widow for the commemoration of himself.

The Commander-in-Chief: There might be a question of whether you would not have to execute that trust.

S. W. Macurdy of Pennsylvania: That is just the situation I would like to add to what I have said,— that this does not come as a request from Mrs. Davis, but from her attorney, and she does not ask it particularly. She is simply willing to let the Commandery-in-Chief do as they see fit.

W. R. Willhide of Pennsylvania: Commander, this piece of business means naught for the Encampment at the present time, — asking it to release Mrs. Major Davis from the five hundred dollars. I would only ask that the new officers will release Mrs. Davis of this five hundred dollars. I want to say that I have in the last almost two years since Major Davis has been dead, been in close connection with Mrs. Davis. I have spent time and money in looking after her. Some members of this Order may think she is in good circumstances. She is

not wealthy by any means. She will have to sell her home to settle up the estate. I want to ask the members of this Encampment to act honestly and uprightly and fairly to the widow of a comrade of the Grand Army and the father of this organization. I do this because I feel it is my duty as a son of a veteran, and being placed in a position where I can know these things, being in close connection and living close to her, I feel it my duty to speak in this way. I hold in my hand here a Memorial Badge that was left by Major A. P. Davis for her benefit, and I hope the brothers of this organization when they go back home will make it their business to try and sell for Mrs. Davis as many as possible. If any of the brothers want them they can get the badge of Mrs. Davis.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon the reference, which is not a debatable question as we all know.

W. H. Wyker of New York: Commander, I have simply this to say, that if I die leaving my widow an estate of sixteen thousand dollars, and I make all that money out of the Sons of Veterans, I trust that this organization will not return any part of the five hundred dollars that I give them.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is to refer it to the incoming administration.

The Chair put the question and it was agreed to.

FINAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS' REPORTS.

Joseph B. Maccabe of Massachusetts: Commander, the Committee on Officers' Reports now desire to make a final report. It is relative to the case of Commander Moran.

Chairman Maccabe read as follows: —

Relative to the case of Commander Charles H. E. Moran of the Division of New York, referred to in the report of the Commander-in-Chief, the committee have been officially informed that the appeal has been withdrawn for the reason that Brother Moran has been re-elected by the Division Council and has been duly installed and qualified.

Your committee agree with the Commander-in-Chief, however, that in view of the doubtful construction to be given to Section 7, Article VII., Chapter V., some definite action should be taken, so that in similar cases in the future, there shall be a plain and clear rule for official guidance. The committee believe that this result can be best accomplished by legislation, and therefore recommend that a new section be added to Article VII., Chapter V. of the C., R. & R., as follows: —

SECTION 9 In the event of the failure or neglect of any Division Commander to have a sufficient bond on file at the headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief, as required by preceding sections, it shall be the duty of the Commander-in-Chief to remove said Division Commander from office by special orders, and to place the Senior Vice-Commander in temporary charge of Division affairs, with instructions to immediately convene the Division Council to fill the vacancy thus occasioned.

Chairman Maccabe: This is concurred in and signed and approved by the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and, Mr. Commander-in-Chief, I move its adoption.

The motion was seconded. After discussion : —

The Commander-in-Chief : The question is upon agreeing to the report of the committee. Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. The report is agreed to, and the section adopted is a part of the Constitution.

Chairman Maccabe : The committee now finally ask their discharge, and, by way of conclusion, would say that they desire to commend the reports of the several officers, notably that of the Commander-in-Chief, and sincerely hope that his future journey in life will be long, happy and prosperous.

Frank D. Jackson of Iowa : Commander, the Committee on Resolutions is ready.

The Commander-in-Chief : We will listen to the report of the Committee on Resolutions.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Frank D. Jackson, Chairman of Committee on Resolutions, submitted the following report : —

To the Commandery-in-Chief : —

We, your Committee on Resolutions, beg leave to submit the following report on Resolutions : —

We recommend concurrence in the following resolutions : —

CONCERNING BLANK FORMS.

WHEREAS, Many of the blank forms in use do not meet the purposes for which they are intended for the reason that the arrangement of the blank spacing, the headings or the instructions printed thereon are not in conformity with the present Constitution and the requisites of the Order, therefore,

Be it Resolved, That, as the present supply of such forms becomes exhausted, the Quartermaster-General, with the advice of the Adjutant-General, be authorized to make such changes in the forms as will make them conform to our laws and requirements.

The Commander-in-Chief : Is there any objection to the adoption of the first resolution? The Chair hears none. It is adopted.

Chairman Jackson : —

CONCERNING HOLDING ENCAMPMENT WITH G.A.R.

WHEREAS, At the Thirty-fourth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic the officers of said Encampment expressed a desire that the Sons of Veterans in the future hold their Encampments at the same time and place with the Grand Army of the Republic, now, therefore,

Be it Resolved, By the Nineteenth Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., that it is the sense of this Commandery-in-Chief, that the officials of our Order consult with the officials of the Grand Army of the Republic, looking toward the carrying forward of this movement, and that the Encampment of the two Orders should be held at the same time and place, as soon as it is found practical to do so.

Chairman Jackson : This resolution is presented by Bro. W. S. Maple of Illinois. The committee recommend it be referred to the Committee on Fraternal Relations.

The Commander-in-Chief : Is the recommendation of the committee agreed to?

R. M. J. Reed of Pennsylvania: Commander, I just want one word. The members of the Commandery-in-Chief will remember that this is a question that has been brought before this Commandery-in-Chief a number of times. And you will also remember that in reading the reports of the meetings of the Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic they take that subject up, and they are not prepared and satisfied to have anything to do with the Sons of Veterans. At the last meeting, the Thirty-fourth annual Encampment, in Chicago they refused to recognize them. I know they had a Fraternal Committee, but I will tell you, brothers, I am a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, let us just wait until they come after us. [Applause.]

W. S. Maple of Illinois: Commander, I differ with the brother from Pennsylvania on the question of the Grand Army desiring the Sons of Veterans. If the brother had gone through that Encampment as I did, in Chicago, he would not make the statement that the Grand Army does not want us. I have heard it on all sides; every one of the officials that had charge of that Encampment, have come to me and stated that they wanted the Sons of Veterans to take part in it. The Department Commander of Illinois, no later than Monday morning, said, "Go down to the Encampment and tell the boys we want you." I tell you it is time. I think, brothers, the time is right now for us to take some decided action. If we are going to demonstrate our worth now is the time to begin it. If you had seen the four hundred Sons of Veterans that took part in that Encampment, and heard the words of commendation that came from those old soldiers, you would not say they don't want us.

T. A. Barton of Rhode Island: Commander and brothers, as a son of a veteran and a comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic, as a member of the Fraternal Committee at Philadelphia, I wish to endorse most heartily the remarks of Comrade Reed. When the Grand Army of the Republic do want us they will emphasize that fact, and we can abide their action, remembering always, that patience is rewarded.

Wm. E. Bundy of Ohio: Commander, I should like to ask if these brothers who have been present in the house are aware of the action taken by the Grand Army of the Republic at Chicago, and whether they are likewise aware of the action taken by this Encampment upon their invitation. That such a Committee on Fraternal Relations is appointed. This is merely to refer a communication to that committee. I believe we can trust in the judgment of that committee.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is simply of referring this resolution to our committee.

R. M. J. Reed of Pennsylvania: Commander, I would just like one moment. I have not occupied much of your time; I want to state my position. I only want to state I am not ignorant of the action of the Grand Army of the Republic. I was a member of the committee last year in Philadelphia, and I know something as to their sentiments. Go to them individually and they will tell you. They have for the first time to invite us. Last year when we paraded in Philadelphia it

required the hardest kind of pleading on the part of our friends (and there are gentlemen here who can bear testimony that I am telling you the truth) to have one regiment of the Sons of Veterans permitted to parade in that line. We had guarded their Camp for one week at our own expense, and yet it took the hardest kind of pleading, after hiring our band, appearing on the street, and reporting for duty; we had to coax and plead to be permitted to parade in that line. There are officers of my regiment here today who can testify to that, and it was almost impossible to receive permission to parade. I am a member of the Grand Army and I have visited a few of their Encampments, and I know the sentiment. This matter of recognition from the Grand Army of the Republic was brought up in Wheeling, W.Va., Des Moines, Ia., and has been for year after year; whenever they get ready they will send us an invitation. Let us wait until we receive an invitation.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon referring this resolution to our Fraternal Committee. Is there any objection? The Chair hears none. It is so referred.

Chairman Jackson: The following is respectfully submitted by the Pennsylvania Division: —

RELATIVE TO INSPECTION.

"That the first five questions should be consolidated into two questions, one covering the entire set of officers in their opening and closing ceremonies, as well as the order of business, and the other covering the officers in the ritualistic work during muster of recruits.

It is also recommended that where a Camp has regularly organized a degree team for the exemplification of the muster, that the rating on the second proposed changed question be made on the manner of the work of the degree team, and in case of no change of the questions that such a degree team conferring the muster ceremony be rated in the questions affecting such ritualistic work; and request the abolishment of the required forty per cent attendance, or reduce the percentage to Camps over one hundred in membership."

The Committee on Resolutions not having time to properly investigate these recommendations and intelligently report them, recommend that these questions be referred to a special committee of three, to be reported upon at the next Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the report agreed to? The Chair hears no objection. It is so ordered.

Chairman Jackson: —

CONCERNING THE WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

Resolved, That we are pleased to note the lively interest this noble band of loyal women is now taking in our welfare. We have received many marks of courtesy from them during the past year, and they also have taken a lively and practical interest in encouraging us in the establishment of our College and the organization of Camps.

Adopted.

CONCERNING THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

WHEREAS, our auxiliary, the Ladies' Aid Society, has been as devoted to our interests during the past year as a loving sister; the Camps appealing to the Aids for assistance have not appealed in vain, and the idea of our Military

College has aroused quite as much enthusiasm with our girls as it has with our members;

Resolved, That we encourage these earnest sisters of ours in every way we can, believing they will ever respond to the calls we may make upon them in furthering our work.

Adopted.

Chairman Jackson: —

OUR OFFICIAL ORGAN.

WHEREAS, The *Banner* has been subscribed for by several Divisions for the benefit of their members, and the results apparently have justified the expenditure, for renewed life and gain in membership is noted in every Division which has adopted this plan of awakening an interest among the members;

Resolved, That an Order of our size requires the benefits of a newspaper devoted to its interests and we cordially recommend our official organ to the Order.

Chairman Jackson: We recommend the adoption of the resolution.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the recommendation agreed to? The Chair hears no objection. It is agreed to.

Chairman Jackson: —

PLEDGING THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Resolved, That it is with feelings of joy and pride we acknowledge the consideration shown to this association by the Grand Army of the Republic, for its cheerful and unanimous endorsement of the purpose of this body to aid in the building, and supporting by our patriotic influence, a National Military College. And, in this acknowledgment we desire to express our gratitude for the constant and oft repeated evidences shown by our fathers for this organization. And, realizing fully the duties and obligations resting upon us as their representatives in the generation to which we belong, we renew our pledges of loyalty and fidelity to our country and its heroic defenders.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be duly authenticated and forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is the resolution agreed to? The Chair hears no objection. It is agreed to.

Chairman Jackson: —

HOSPITALITY OF SYRACUSE.

Resolved, That to the two local Camps, the citizens, the press, and the mayor of the city of Syracuse, we return our appreciative thanks for the uniform courtesy and cordial hospitality extended during our very pleasant stay. The recollections of this gratifying session will always be augmented by the memory of its patriotic and hospitable people.

The Commander-in Chief: Is the resolution agreed to? The Chair hears no objection. It is agreed to.

Chairman Jackson: I will say that after the committee had finished its work we were handed two other resolutions, which we will present without recommendation.

Chairman Jackson read resolution as follows: —

CONCERNING R. E. MORTON AND J. C. SAWYER.

"The Division of New Jersey respectfully requests that the rank of a Past Division Commander be given to Brother R. E. Morton of Ellsworth Camp No 32, of Union Hill, N.J., he being Commander-in-Chief of the Post System, Sons of Veterans, and who was the one brother principally instrumental in

bringing over his Post and wiping out the last vestige of opposition to our Order in New Jersey. We earnestly ask for this favor as Brother Morton spent considerable time and was indefatigable in bringing about this much desired result

ROBERT J VAN HOUTEN,
Division Commander."

GEO. W. POLLITT,
Q.-M. and Act. Adjt

Geo. W. Pollitt of New Jersey: The Division of New Jersey presents this resolution, and I now move its adoption.

The motion was seconded.

Geo. W. Pollitt of New Jersey: Commander, an explanation is due the members on this resolution.

Many of the brothers who are older in the Order know we have had a great deal of trouble with the Post System, and the last vestige of the Post System in New Jersey was a Camp at Union Hill and another at Carlstadt. It was about fifteen years old and they had about one thousand dollars in their treasury, and they labored under the delusion that if they came in we would get the money. Through the efforts of this Brother Morton they were brought in. He is a brother of ours, but he is a plain ordinary brother and has no rank of any sort. He was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Post System a little over a year ago, and about eight months ago he began operating for the purpose of bringing his Post over, because he came to the conclusion that it was a sensible thing to do, and that they had better be a Camp than a Post. That Post came over on the 7th of July, this year. No promises were made to Brother Morton that were binding upon this Encampment, but the New Jersey Division did promise that, as he had served faithfully in the Post, and then had brought his Post over as a Camp, and it was an agreeable acquisition to the Division of New Jersey, that in consideration of all these facts and the loyal way he went about it, the Division of New Jersey would ask you to give him the rank of Past Division Commander.

We are not making a Past Commander-in-Chief. There is one other Post in the Division of New Jersey, and that will be over in about two weeks, and then there will be none in the State of New Jersey.

George Addington of New York: Commander, there is no brother in the Order with whom I would prefer to agree more than with Brother Politt, but this matter of giving members of the old Post System past honors has come up a number of times in our meetings. I do not remember of Mr. Morton being a Commander-in-Chief of the Post System. I have a petition in my pocket of an old member of the Post System, having been mustered into a Post in the city of Albany, which we claim is the first institution of the Sons of Veterans in the country, in 1878, I believe.

Now, I desire to make a motion with reference to this matter, and my reasons are these: We have a petition here to give past honors to Joseph C. Sawyer, as Commander-in-Chief of the old Post System, who is here in this Convention, and who is down on our roster as a Past Division Commander of the Division of New York. He has served as Commander-in-Chief of the Post System, as did also Brother Brown. Brother Brown succeeded Brother Sawyer as Commander-in-Chief of

the Post System, and he was the last Commander-in-Chief. Brother Brown received honors from one of the Encampments as Past Commander-in-Chief, and therefore we thought we might present this petition; and because Brother Brown succeeded Brother Sawyer as Commander-in-Chief of the Post System, as a matter of course, the Commandery-in-Chief would give Brother Sawyer past honors. Brother Sawyer did noble work, I know, as Division Commander of his Division in 1888 and 1889. Now, Commander-in-Chief, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to present this petition, and move, if that is concurred in, that the matter of the New Jersey brother and this matter be referred to a committee to report at the next meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded.

George W. Pollitt of New Jersey: Commander, I would like Brother Addington to state why he wants this to go over twelve months.

George Addington of New York: Commander, my reason is this: I realize the fact that it is getting pretty late, although I am a member of the old Post System. It is getting pretty late for brothers to come into the meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief and ask that honors be bestowed upon them as Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past Commanders; I realize in presenting this petition, although I think the brother is entitled to it, for I do not see how anybody can think otherwise when he has the fact before him that Brother Sawyer's successor as Commander-in-Chief of the Post System was given past honors. For that reason, and trusting it will be the last time that any brother will come here and ask for past honors, I think, brothers, this matter should be investigated and acted upon at the next Commandery-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief: Brother Pollitt of New Jersey moves that past honors be given to Robert E. Morton. That motion is superseded by the motion of Brother Addington of New York that this, with the application he has made, be referred to a special committee. The motion to refer would take precedence of the original motion.

George W. Pollitt of New Jersey: I would like to speak on that.

The Commander-in-Chief: If there is no objection. [Cries of "Objection," "Objection."]

The Commander-in-Chief: Objection is made, and the question is upon the reference.

George B. Abbott of Illinois: I ask for a division. There is one case there from New Jersey and another case of New York. I ask for a division because I want to vote one way on one, and another way on the other.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question will first recur on the motion to refer the application of Brother Pollitt.

Geo. W. Pollitt of New Jersey: It was not a motion to refer.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Addington moves a reference and that supersedes your motion. If he had not included your candidate, then it would not, but he moves to include them both.

The Chaplain-in-Chief: Commander, can this brother ring in this other name on a substitute motion of this kind? If that was included in the original motion he could do this thing, but can he do it under this?

The Commander-in-Chief: There is more question of whether he can bring his men in. There is not a particle of question whether he can refer Brother Pollitt's man to a committee. The question recurs upon the reference, and a division is asked for, and therefore the first motion will be to refer the candidate of Brother Pollitt to a special committee.

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: Point of order, Commander. The question as to whether Brother Addington can take Brother Pollitt's motion and add it to his and make one motion of the two.

The Commander-in-Chief: There can be no question but what he can move Brother Pollitt's motion to a reference. Did you not, Brother Addington, move to refer the candidate of Brother Pollitt to the committee?

George Addington of NewYork: Commander, I did, and this petition.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is on the reference of the request made by Brother Pollitt.

The Chair put the motion and it was not agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question recurs on the original motion.

George Addington of New York: Commander, I call for a division.

The Commander-in-Chief: Too late.

Frank L. Shepard of Illinois: Commander, in view of the fact that this applicant has only been in the Order six months, according to the statement made, this matter should, in my judgment, be referred to some committee in order to make examination in detail. I move that the motion to give the rank of Past Division Commander to the applicant be laid upon the table.

The motion was seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: The question is upon the motion of General Shepard to lay the motion of Brother Pollitt upon the table. You of the opinion that the motion prevail will exhibit it by the usual show of the Order. Hands down. Contrary the same sign. [Cries of "Division."]

The Commander-in-Chief: A division is called for. You of the opinion that the motion prevail will arise; stand until counted. The Adjutant-General will count. There is no use to count; the motion is evidently carried and agreed to.

C. J. Miller of Pennsylvania: I call for the ayes and nays.

The Commander-in-Chief: Does the brother want to spend the time to call the ayes and nays?

C. J. Miller of Pennsylvania: I came here to vote and I did not have a chance to vote.

The Commander-in-Chief: Adjutant-General, call the roll.

C. J. Miller of Pennsylvania: I don't want a roll call. I simply want an opportunity to vote "no" on this question.

The Commander-in-Chief: The member asks for the roll call and he is entitled to it and he shall have it. The Adjutant-General will proceed with the roll call. The brother shall have his just dues and all that belongs to him. The question is upon the motion to lay upon the table. Those who are in favor of laying it upon the table will, as their names are called, say "aye"; contrary, "no."

The Adjutant-General called the roll and announced the result: ayes, one hundred twenty-four; noes, thirty-one. The vote by Divisions was as follows: —

	Yes.	No.
Alabama and Tennessee	2	
California	1	
Connecticut	6	
Illinois	11	1
Indiana		10
Iowa	4	5
Kansas		1
Maine	2	
Maryland	6	
Massachusetts	12	
Michigan	4	
Minnesota	2	1
Nebraska	5	1
New Hampshire	3	
New Jersey		5
New York	18	2
Ohio	9	
Pennsylvania	27	1
Rhode Island	7	
South Dakota	4	
Vermont	1	
Wisconsin		4
	124	31

The Commander-in-Chief: The motion is agreed to.

Chairman Jackson read the following resolution: —

CONCERNING FREMONT TIETZE.

"The New Jersey Division in encampment at Peterson, Feb 14–15, 1900, voted unanimously to request the Commandery-in-Chief to restore to Brother Fremont Tietze of Camp 45, New Jersey Division, the rank of a Past Captain.

Yours in F., C. and L.,

ROBERT J. VAN HOUTEN,
Division Commander"

Attest:
GEO. W. POLLITT,
Quartermaster and Acting Adjutant.

George W. Pollitt of New Jersey: Commander, I move the resolution be received and adopted.

The motion was seconded.

George W. Pollitt of New Jersey: This brother, by a decision of a Commander-in-Chief of this Order, was put outside the breastworks. Afterwards, by a reversal of that decision, he was brought inside again; but in the operation of getting out and getting back he lost his rank of Past Captain. He is now in the Order doing any kind of work, and he would like to have his iron cross back again.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is there any objection? The Chair hears none and his rank is restored.

S. W. Macurdy of Pennsylvania: Commander, I desire to present a petition.

The Commander-in-Chief: What is your motion?

S. W. Macurdy of Pennsylvania: That a member of Anna Ross Camp be made a life member.

The Commander-in-Chief: In the opinion of the Chair the motion is out of order.

CONCERNING BESTOWAL OF SERVICE BADGE.

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: Commander, I desire to present a motion. I move that all legislation relating to the bestowal of a Service Badge upon members of our Order in the United States army and navy during the Spanish War, be extended so as to include present and future members of our Order serving in the Philippines.

The motion was seconded.

The Chair put the motion and it was agreed to.

Frank L. Shepard of Illinois: Commander, I move that we now proceed to select a place of meeting for our next Annual Encampment.

The motion was seconded.

The Chair put the motion and it was agreed to.

Joseph B. Maccabe of Massachusetts: Commander, I move that nominating speeches be limited to two and one-half minutes.

Commander-in-Chief: The Chair hears no objection and it is agreed.

The Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll of Divisions for the purpose of nominating a place for next Annual Encampment.

When the Division of Alabama and Tennessee was called:

L. W. Friedman of Alabama and Tennessee: Commander, Alabama and Tennessee gives way to Rhode Island.

PROVIDENCE NOMINATED FOR PLACE OF NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

Frank J. Clinton of Rhode Island: Commander, the time allotted is quite sufficient for what I have to offer for Rhode Island. Commander-in-Chief and Brothers, I realize now more fully than before the error of Rhode Island's delegation in selecting me to present this matter to the Encampment. They have in their membership in this hall today brothers who would not have had to appear on the platform to have been heard, but could have been heard from the floor.

The subject which they wish me to present to you is one which is very dear to their hearts. It is a matter of inviting you, representatives of the different Divisions of the Sons of Veterans, to meet with us in Annual Encampment next year in the city of Providence [Applause], a spot on the map which I have seen at one particular headquarters at the Yates House, which would be very difficult to describe. In fact, they have made Rhode Island so very small on that map that they have found it necessary to put the last letter of the initial of the State on the broad Atlantic. But, if the State is small, we are very enthusiastic in the project of inviting you to visit us next year.

We have not only one "bright spot" in Rhode Island, but we have countless hundreds of bright spots. If we could put together all

those "bright spots" which I have seen distributed through the city this week, it would be sufficient to make an armor for every member of this delegation here today.

We ask you to meet among a producing class, in a community where the wheels of industry are never stopped, in a community which is brim full of patriotism.

Brothers, perhaps I should not proceed further, for I believe, like our respected Commander, in sticking to law and when time is called to insist upon it; but there are one or two matters that I feel I am in duty bound to present.

The Commander-in-Chief: I ask unanimous consent. [Cries of "consent."]

Frank J. Clinton continuing. If the members of this Encampment realized the conservativeness of the municipal government of the city of Providence, they would appreciate the importance of the action that was taken in the city government last Monday evening, and with your permission I will read the action, which I may say is the first time, as far as I have been given to understand, that such action has been taken by the municipal government of the city of Providence, and we find in the *Providence Journal*, which has just been received, the following: —

"A resolution extending an invitation to the Sons of Veterans to hold the next Annual Encampment in the city of Providence, which was unanimously passed."

I also have here a telegram, one among many, which is from prominent citizens of the State of Rhode Island.

And in conclusion, do not think that it is the city of Providence that invites you to meet with them, alone; the Division of Rhode Island, by action at their annual Encampment, invites you. I do not ask alone in the name of Rhode Island, I ask in the name of all New England; I ask in the name of my native State, New Hampshire, and the State which I have lived in, Massachusetts; I ask in the name of all New England. Come home to the place where your fathers first saw the light. You from the west, you from the south, who have located in these distant places by virtue of your fathers moving there after the war, come home and see the beautiful homes of your forefathers; come and see the homes of your mothers. I want you all to come. I thank you for your attention.

The Adjutant-General continued the calling of the roll.

When the Division of California was called:

Wm. L. Barnum of California: Commander, California gives way to Illinois.

William E. Hull of Illinois: Illinois rises as one of the western States to second the nomination of Rhode Island for the next Encampment. We appreciate that the east should have this Encampment, and we as a western State are willing to come. [Applause.]

When the Division of Connecticut was called:

Lewis S. Chapman of Connecticut: Commander, Connecticut wishes to second the invitation of Rhode Island.

Indiana seconds the nomination of Providence.

Iowa seconds the nomination of Providence.

When the Division of Massachusetts was called:

Fred E. Warner of Massachusetts: Commander, Massachusetts heartily seconds the nomination of Providence.

When the Division of New York was called:

Chas. H. E. Moran of New York: Commander, New York seconds the nomination of "Little Rhody" for the next Encampment.

When the Division of Ohio was called:

F. W. Hendrix of Ohio: Commander, in view of the fact that I was born in the State of Nebraska, for that State and for the State of Ohio, and in addition, as the National Encampment has never been held in New England, Ohio very gladly seconds the nomination of Rhode Island.

When the Division of Pennsylvania was called:

S. W. Macurdy of Pennsylvania: Commander, Pennsylvania goes east with Rhode Island.

When the Division of Wisconsin was called:

W. J. Patton of Wisconsin: Commander, Wisconsin looks upon this as a Providential affair — Providence 1901 and Milwaukee 1902.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is it by unanimous consent that we go to "Little Rhody" next year? [Cries of "yes," "yes."]

The Commander in Chief: So let it be. [Applause.]

Frank L. Shepard of Illinois: Commander, I move that the time of the meeting of the next Encampment be left to the judgment of the incoming Council-in-Chief and incoming Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is it agreed? The Chair hears no objection and it is so ordered.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY LOCAL COMMITTEE.

A. G. Courtney of New York, member of Local Committee: Commander, I think, in deference to the large amount of work that has been done by the Home Entertainment Committee, some consideration should be given to the program that has been arranged. Now, we have considerable work for the Encampment to do and it cannot be concluded this afternoon. Therefore, with the supposition that there will be unfinished business for tomorrow, we ask that deference be made for the entertainment that has been provided for this evening. The trolley cars will start at 7.30 sharp for the trolley ride.

The Commander-in-Chief: There will be no further business this afternoon after we have elected officers.

A. G. Courtney of New York: I want to say that tickets will be furnished to those who appear between seven and half past seven o'clock this evening at the Empire House. The ticket is a coupon arrangement, which permits transportation to and from Lakeside Park and also an admission to the theatre.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

E. H. Archer of Ohio: Commander, I move that we now proceed to the election of officers.

The motion was seconded.

The Chair put the question, and it was agreed to.

J. D. Rowan of Iowa: Commander, I move that nominating speeches be limited to three minutes and seconding speeches be limited to one minute.

The motion was seconded.

The Commander-in-Chief: Is it agreed to? The Chair hears no objection, and it is agreed to. The Adjutant-General will call the roll for nominations for Commander-in-Chief.

The Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll.

When the Division of Alabama and Tennessee was called:

L. W. Friedman of Alabama: Commander, the Division of Alabama and Tennessee gives way to Pennsylvania.

J. L. Rake of Pennsylvania: Commander, gentlemen of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment: I will not consume the limit of time given me by Brother Rowan's motion, and I think it entirely unnecessary more than to say that I propose to present the name of a son of a veteran who was mustered in 1881, and who has continued his membership since that day. The second Commander of the Pennsylvania Division, rather the Eastern Pennsylvania Division at that time, receiving the effects of the Division in a small box, and perceiving that the Division existed without an organization, he, with the able assistants he had at that time, has the proud distinction of having inaugurated a successful Division out of the first Division doing business in this Order. At home he is known as a successful business man, as a man whose word is equal to his bond; as a man who will make, during the coming year, an administration of which neither he nor you need feel ashamed. I have the honor to present the name of Edgar W. Alexander of Pennsylvania. [Applause.]

EDGAR W. ALEXANDER OF PENNSYLVANIA ELECTED COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Newton J. McGuire of Indiana: Commander, with your permission, and the permission of the brothers, I desire to be heard.

At the last Encampment of the Division of Indiana we desired to have a candidate for Commander-in-Chief. I was selected to make the race. We came here with a large delegation, and we have canvassed the situation and are thoroughly convinced, from the opinions of the brothers expressed here at this Encampment, that this is not the year for Indiana.

We assure you that we appreciate the friendliness and courtesy of every brother of this Encampment who has listened to our claims upon this office, and we thank you, one and all, for your support and disposition to do what you believed to be for the best interests of this Order, and bowing to the will of the majority of this Encampment,

Indiana pledges you that she will be the first to take up the work, and I, for one, shall be the first to wish the administration of Brother Alexander of Pennsylvania a successful one. [Great applause and cheers.]

I therefore rise to move that the call of the roll be dispensed with, and that the Adjutant-General be instructed to cast the entire vote of this Encampment for Edgar W. Alexander of Pennsylvania. [Applause.]

The motion was seconded.

The Chair put the question on the motion, and it was agreed to unanimously.

The Adjutant-General: In accordance with the action just taken, I cast the vote as follows: For Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., for Edgar W. Alexander, one hundred and sixty-seven votes — the entire vote of this Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Edgar W. Alexander, having received the unanimous vote of this Encampment, is declared elected Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year. [Cries of "Alexander," "Alexander."]

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Alexander is called for. Come to the platform.

Members of the Nineteenth Encampment, it affords me the greatest of pleasure to present to you your Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year, Brother Alexander of Pennsylvania.

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ELECT ALEXANDER.

Commander-in-Chief elect Alexander: Commander, and Officers and Members of this Encampment: I do not intend to delay you by any very extended remarks at this time, but I do want to say, that I most keenly appreciate the magnanimous action of this Encampment, and I trust, as I assume it, I keenly feel the responsibility connected therewith. And to you Commander, and the past officers, as well as your Staff, permit me to assure you that the work that you have been unable to finish during your term, and which has been carried over, shall be faithfully cared for by the incoming administration. With the able assistance of the officers selected, as well as Staff that I may select, I hope to give you an administration during the coming year that will reflect credit, not only upon your officers, but the organization at large.

I have come to a position in life where my business will not require that attention that it has in years gone by, and I shall be able to give plenty of time and attention to the office to which you have elected me. [Applause.] I shall endeavor to incorporate the same keen business ideas, that have characterized the organization for some years past. I do not know as I have anything further to say to you, any more than to again thank you for the honor conferred. [Applause.]

S. W. Macurdy of Pennsylvania: Commander, I desire to present to our new Commander-in-Chief the first application for a Camp at Newcomb, Pennsylvania.

PRESENTATION OF PORTRAIT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF JONES.

Wm E. Bundy of Ohio: I believe it is entirely proper and according to precedent, that something should be said now in regard to the retiring Commander-in-Chief. His successor-elect has been presented with an application for a charter, which we know to be most gratifying to him at this time, fully appreciating as we do his intense loyalty to the organization and his ardent desire to encourage its growth and increase its membership. It is not my intention to present General Jones with anything, but at the request of the Ohio Division, which he has honored and which delights to honor him, I desire to offer to this Encampment a crayon portrait, to be placed in the headquarters of the Commandery and which will show the firm, but kindly, face of Ohio's favorite son, for generations to come, among those who have honorably served in the chief offices of our Order. So, on behalf of the Buckeye Division, I have the honor to now present the excellent likeness of our faithful, able and beloved brother, Asa W. Jones. [The portrait was here exhibited amid great applause, and prolonged cheering.]

Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott: I will ask Past Commander-in-Chief Darling to respond in behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief.

ACCEPTANCE BY PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF DARLING.

Past Commander-in-Chief Darling: Commander-in-Chief and brothers of this Encampment: I am pleased to accept, on your behalf, this picture of our present beloved Commander-in-Chief. I am sure I voice the entire sentiment and feeling of this Encampment when I say that we have had no Commander-in-Chief who has inspired us more with his personality and strength than that noble man who now sits upon the platform. [Applause.] Older than most of us, he has been, and still is, as young in heart as the youngest of us. He has filled to the full the high office to which we elected him last year, and I want to assure him, in behalf of every brother of the Order, that he retires from this office with the good will of each and every one of us. [Applause.]

The Commander-in-Chief: I will not attempt to take time to make any remarks, but I will proceed with the regular order of business. The next thing in order is the election of a Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief. By unanimous consent we could avoid calling the roll of Divisions and allow any one to present a candidate who desires. Is there any objection to not calling the roll of Divisions? [Cries of "Agreed."] We will listen to the nominations for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

E. C. Parkinson of New York: I arise to discharge a duty that is a great privilege and pleasure to me. I desire to present the name of a brother, who has long been an energetic and enthusiastic member of the Sons of Veterans, and is a Past Commander of his Division. A man of large business, a manufacturer, so situated that he may give great attention to the interest of our organization. It is my pleasure to present for your consideration for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief the name of Albert H. Rawitzer of Nebraska.

Charles C. Stull of Nebraska: Commander, it affords me great pleasure to acknowledge the honor bestowed by the New York Division,

and to say we heartily endorse our co-worker in the Nebraska Division, Brother Rawitzer.

A. H. RAWITZER ELECTED SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

E. C. Parkinson of New York: Commander, I move that the Adjutant-General be directed to cast the unanimous vote of this Encampment for Albert H. Rawitzer for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief. The motion was seconded.

The Chair put the question and it was agreed to unanimously.

The Adjutant-General: I cast the one hundred sixty-seven votes of the Encampment for Albert H. Rawitzer of Nebraska.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brother Albert H. Rawitzer of Nebraska, having received the unanimous vote, is hereby declared duly elected Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year. [Cries of "Rawitzer."]

The Commander-in-Chief: I take pleasure in presenting Brother Rawitzer, your incoming Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

REMARKS OF SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ELECT.

Albert H. Rawitzer of Nebraska: Commander-in-Chief and brothers of this Encampment, I am too bashful to make a speech. I am from the city where we produce nothing but bashful men. But I want to assure you I appreciate the confidence you have reposed in selecting me Senior Vice-Commander for the ensuing year, and I trust at the end of my official year that I will be able to show you that your confidence has not been misplaced. I thank you. [Applause.]

The Commander-in-Chief: The next in order is the election of a Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

John R. Neeley of Illinois: Commander and brothers, as Past Commander of the Division of Maryland, now affiliated with the Division of Illinois, I desire to name for the position of Junior Vice-Commander one who has served in the Order thirteen years and has given generously of his time and means; one who represents a Division whose representatives have served in the Commandery in the greatest capacities with credit to themselves and profit to the Commandery-in-Chief. This has been no better illustrated than in the service of the Judge Advocate-General of the present administration and his splendid work in that office. In the man whose name I will now mention you will find one who has performed every duty faithfully and well, and it is with great pleasure I name you Charles S. Davis of Washington City of the Division of Maryland. [Applause.]

CHARLES S. DAVIS ELECTED JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Samuel S. Horn of Pennsylvania: Commander, I move that the Adjutant-General cast the unanimous ballot of this Encampment in favor of Brother Charles S. Davis for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

The Adjutant-General cast the one hundred sixty-seven votes for Charles S. Davis of Maryland.

The Commander-in-Chief: You have made the choice of Charles S. Davis of Maryland as your Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief for the ensuing year. ["Cries of "Davis," "Davis."]

ADDRESS OF JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ELECT.

The Commander-in-Chief: Brothers, it is my pleasure to present to you Brother Charles S. Davis, Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief elect.

Junior Vice-Commander Elect Davis: Commander-in-Chief and brothers, I assure you that this has been a profound surprise to me that I should be called upon to assist our worthy Commander-in-Chief elect to uphold the dignity and order of our meetings; that I should be called upon to be at the back or at the left hand of our Commander-in-Chief to uphold him in the conduct of his office during the coming year, has been a most profound surprise to me, whatever it has been to you.

I appreciate the honor you have conferred upon me more than I can tell. The more, because I had no personal hand in engineering an election for myself. It comes to me as the free-will offering of my brothers and it is therefore doubly valuable to me.

I assure you that during the coming year I shall endeavor to be worthy of the confidence you have placed in me, and I will do all in my power to assist my superior officer and shall be at his service whenever he calls upon me; and if he does not call upon me sufficiently often I will hunt work for myself to do, for I know there is work for every man to do. [Applause.] I shall endeavor to do my full duty to the organization and to my country. I thank you again for this very kindly expression of your good-will towards me and I accept it on behalf of the Maryland Division. The Maryland Division appreciates the honor and I, for them, thank you. [Applause.]

CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

The Adjutant-General: I have some communications which I would like to read at this time.

The Adjutant-General read the following telegrams and communications: —

READING, PA., Sept. 11, 1900.

General Geo. G. Meade Camp 16, sends greeting and trusts Colonel Alexander may be selected to lead the Order to increased success during the coming year.

H. F. DIEFENDERFER,
First Sergeant.

PAWTUCKET, R.I., Sept. 12, 1900.

Greetings and best wishes to the Commandery-in-Chief, hoping to meet you all in 1901.

T. M. SWEETLAND.

KINGSTON, R.I., Sept. 12, 1900.

Greetings to brothers. Do not fail to bring home prize.

W. R. CONGDON.

(Both addressed to Adjutant Hammond of Rhode Island Division.)

The Commander-in-Chief: The next in order is the election of Council-in-Chief.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

The following nominations were made for Council-in-Chief: —

Dan S. Gardner of Ohio placed in nomination Don C. Cable of Nelsonville, O.

George W. Pollitt of New Jersey placed in nomination James B. Adams of Atlantic City, N.J.

H. E. Cowdin of Michigan placed in nomination C. J. Post of Grand Rapids, Mich.

The Commander-in-Chief: Are there any further names to be presented?

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Commander, I move that the nominations be closed and the Adjutant-General be instructed to cast the vote of this Encampment for the brothers nominated.

The motion was seconded.

It was agreed to unanimously.

The Adjutant-General cast one hundred and sixty-seven votes, the entire vote of the Encampment, for Don C. Cable of Ohio, James B. Adams of New Jersey and C. J. Post of Michigan, for members of the Council-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief: You have made choice of the three brothers elected and they will be the Council-in-Chief for the ensuing year.

RECESS UNTIL THURSDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

A. H. Rawitzer of Nebraska: Commander, I move we now take a recess until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The motion was seconded. (Cries of "Make it 9.")

E. C. Parkinson of New York: I move to amend the motion and make it 9 o'clock.

The amendment was seconded. The amendment was agreed to.

The Chair put the motion as amended and it was agreed to; and the Commandery-in-Chief took recess until Thursday, Sept. 13, 1900, at 9 o'clock A.M.

THURSDAY — MORNING SESSION.

Sept. 13, 1900, 9 o'clock A.M.

The Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Encampment will come to order.

Brother A. B. Spink of Rhode Island, Acting Inspector-General, assisted by the Surgeon-General, made the rounds and reported all present entitled to remain.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Commander, I would like the consent to read a letter I received a week or so ago, to this Encampment.

The Commander-in-Chief: The Chair hears no objection.

G. B. Abbott read letter as follows: —

COMMUNICATION FROM PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF W. H. RUSSELL.

LaCrosse, Kan., Aug. 27, 1900.

Dear General: Sorry, but I am sore afraid I cannot go to Encampment. My wife is sick — has been in poor health all summer. I cannot well be away, either so far or so long. I deeply regret it and beg to assure you it is all that keeps me away. I hate, too, to think that so many of the boys will say, "Oh, Russell got all he could get of the honors and so don't care to come." I do care more than I can say on paper. It is always — has been for ten years — the period to which I look for a vacation and for a splendid time with the very many good comrades and friends I have made throughout the country. I haven't got all out of the Order I can get. I get a renewal of patriotic fire each year, and as I grasp the hands of the old boys I feel that comradeship is indeed something of worth to me. God bless you all and may your Encampment be a most successful one. Give my most cordial regards to General Jones and all the boys at headquarters and the Encampment. Thanking you for courtesies extended, I am Yours sincerely, W. H. RUSSELL.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: I want to say, in that connection, I believe that letter is sincerely written, and I ask to have it go into the record for Brother Russell. That was why I read it. [Cries of "Agreed."]

RITUAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

The Commander-in-Chief: One matter I forgot yesterday. I named on the new Committee on Ritual, General Rake, and I propose to name in connection with him this morning, so as to complete that committee, the incoming Commander-in-Chief and Brother H. H. Hammer. They will be right together, and if they do not have a good degree for the next year it will not be for the lack of a good committee. Is there anything further? So far as I know, there is nothing now remaining for this Encampment but the installation of the incoming officers. Does any brother know of anything that ought to be attended to before we proceed to that?

Geo. W. Pollitt of New Jersey: Commander, do you consider that any business is in order, excepting the installation of officers?

The Commander-in-Chief: I suppose not, unless by unanimous consent. By unanimous consent we can suspend the Constitution.

Geo. W. Pollitt of New Jersey: I want to know if the brothers have confidence enough in me to give their consent first, or wait until I state what it is. Commander-in-Chief, I desire to move that a committee of three be appointed to consider the matter of the application of the New Jersey Division for the rank of Past Division Commander for Brother Robert E. Morton. [Cries of "Object." "That was laid on the table."]

The Commander-in-Chief: I think, brother, you have done your whole duty.

Geo. W. Pollitt of New Jersey: That matter was not laid on the table. The reference to a committee was laid on the table.

The Commander-in-Chief: If we lay the subject matter on the table I don't know how we are going to get it off very well. I think it will have to lie there.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

The Commander-in-Chief: Installation of officers will now be in order. General Abbott, will you take the gavel and proceed with the installation of officers.

Installing Officer Abbott: The Adjutant-General will call the roll of officers-elect. The Inspector-General, as the names of the officers-elect are announced, will please conduct them to the altar.

The newly elected officers were obligated and installed in due form, and escorted to their several stations.

PRESENTATION OF PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S JEWEL.

Installing Officer Abbott: Commander-in-Chief Jones, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, as its Installing Officer, before completing the installation of your successor, I am to officially relieve you from command. This is a touching moment, General. You and I are severing our relations, which have been pleasant and close, for a year. Not one member of this Commandery-in-Chief realizes or knows the devotion you have given the Order of the Sons of Veterans as well as I do. No one appreciates the kindness, the grand, good, deep heart that has throbbed for every brother in the Order for this year past. In connection with relieving you from office I wish to express the sentiments of the Commandery-in-Chief in a tangible form, that always will bring to you the remembrance of your service as its servant; that will bring to your memory this grand Encampment which we have held in the city of Syracuse, this very successful Encampment, and which will be to your memory and mind an object emblematical of the love, regard and esteem with which you are universally held by the whole membership of the Order of the Sons of Veterans, and likewise, as one of the "Old Guard," as I am pleased, in my simple mind, to consider the Past Commanders-in-Chief, and in welcoming you to the ranks of the Past Commanders-in-Chief of the noble Order of the Sons of Veterans, I present you this insignia of your service. [Prolonged applause.]

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF JONES' RESPONSE.

Past Commander-in-Chief Jones: My dear General and friends, my heart is almost too full for utterance this morning. One year ago at the Detroit Encampment you generously, kindly, unanimously, put upon my shoulders the armor of your chief officer for the ensuing year. I know it was undeserved. That, while I love the Order, there were others that were more entitled to its honors than myself, I can truly say that I hesitated when you so generously offered it; but with that hesitation I assumed the discharge of the duties. I called to my aid brothers of the Order to assist me, and they have been kind, efficient, active and in every way worthy of the position in which they were placed. In addition to that, my Adjutant-General called to his assistance our friend, General Abbott, and during the year we have been closely associated. There has nothing escaped our, at least his attention, that was connected with this Order. During that year no unkind word, no unkind

thought, has been spoken. It shall be a year green in my recollection. There have been times in the last year when I thought it a duty to be decided, and to take a firm stand for the good of this Order. Perhaps at times I have ruffled the feelings of some. If so, I desire now, in the closing moment of my administration, to say that there is not a brother of this Order whom I do not love, respect, cherish and desire to meet often. They are brothers to me in a loyal and true organization. [Applause.] As I pass by I want to thank every member of this Order for the uniform kindness, courtesy and love that you have extended to me during the past year. There has not been a time that I have not received the kind co-operation and the friendship, so far as I know, of every member of this Order, high and low. But for that, my administration could not have been tolerated. And now, in conclusion, brothers, I want to thank you for these friendly relations that have existed during the past year; and I want to pray that, for the years that shall roll over our heads, they may continue, and that I may meet with you year after year, take you by the hand, — the hand of friendship and enjoyment; — and that I may travel along with you in this same line, keeping green the memories of our fathers who were comrades together. [Applause.] This beautiful and costly emblem which you have so generously bestowed upon me, I accept not as a reward of merit, but rather as evidence of your large-hearted generosity and kindness To my dying day I shall treasure and preserve it as a pledge of your kindness and esteem. From the bottom of my heart I thank you; not only for this, but for the many acts of kindness and words of cheer which you have lavished upon me during the past year. And now, as the final act of my administration, I want to thank you for putting this Order in the hands of so kind and so genial a brother; one so able, so loyal, so willing, so devoted to the Order, and I know that in his hands it will be safe and that he will carry it through another year, and at its close, with a result that will probably make my administration of the last year, insignificant. Brother Alexander, I pray God that you may have the grandest success that has ever been known in the history of this Order. And now I take pleasure in putting upon your breast the insignia of office which belongs to you. [Applause.] I know you will wear it with honor to the Order, and in your hands I commit its destiny for the coming year. I congratulate the brethren that they have it in your hands. [Applause.]

Commander-in-Chief Alexander assumed command.

CONCERNING BADGE PRESENTED TO GENERAL REED.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Commander, I would like, on behalf of the retiring Council-in-Chief, to announce that in compliance with the vote of the Encampment last year, a badge has been purchased and was presented at the recent Encampment of the Pennsylvania Division to Past Commander-in-Chief Reed. Commander-in-Chief Jones and several members of his staff were present on the occasion, and it was a delightful one; and I wish to say that General Reed certainly appreciated the courtesy of the action of the Eighteenth Annual Encampment on that occasion.

REMARKS OF PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF REED.

R. M. J. Reed of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief and brothers: I have nothing to say other than what you will anticipate my saying, and that is, of course, that I appreciate the badge to its fullest extent. While I am a member of other orders, there are none of them I have as great an interest in as this Order. I believe in it now and always have believed in it, and I have the greatest hopes of its future. I wear this badge with the greatest pride, and I expect to wear it as one of the brightest heritages. I am always glad of these meetings and always glad when the time rolls around to attend. I think I have missed in twenty years but four Encampments. Those were ones I could not get to. So long as I live I hope always to be present, and I trust that the future years may bring to us just as good, as successful, as willing, as earnest and enthusiastic Commanders-in-Chief as have blessed us in the past. [Applause.]

ANNOUNCEMENT OF STAFF BY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

The Commander-in-Chief: Officers and members, I would name as a portion of the staff for the ensuing year, Adjutant-General, H. H. Hammer of Pennsylvania. [Applause.] Judge Advocate-General, Cyrus H. Little of New Hampshire; Chaplain-in-Chief, R. S. Thompson of Indiana. The selections for the position of Surgeon-General, as well as that of Inspector-General, will be announced in General Orders. Is there any further business before this Encampment?

VOTE OF THANKS TO INSTALLING OFFICER ABBOTT.

Frank K. Maples of New York: Commander, I move, sir, that the thanks of this Encampment be extended to Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott for the beautiful and impressive manner in which he has installed the officers for the ensuing year.

The motion was seconded. The motion was agreed to unanimously.

CONCERNING TABLET FOR JOHN BYRNES.

W. B. McNulty of Pennsylvania: Commander, at our Encampment at New Castle, we passed a resolution, upon the request of a Philadelphia Camp, that the Legislature of our State be requested to erect a tablet to the memory of an old gentleman, John Byrnes, who took up a musket and took a prominent part in the engagement at Gettysburg. I would like to ask the Commandery-in-Chief if they will not endorse the request of the Pennsylvania Division to the Legislature to have that done. It is a mere matter of form and we feel that the endorsement of this body might have a little more weight, and we would like very much, if there is no objection, to have permission to use the endorsement of the Commandery-in-Chief to that request.

F. H. B. McDowell of Wisconsin: Commander, I move the petition be endorsed as requested by the Pennsylvania Division.

The motion was seconded. The motion was agreed to.

PRESENTATION OF SERVICE BADGE TO PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF DARLING.

R. M. J. Reed of Pennsylvania: Commander-in-Chief, I would like to say a word, if Past Commander-in-Chief Darling would oblige us by coming upon the platform.

[Past Commander-in-Chief Darling escorted to platform.]

Brothers, year before last, when we met in Omaha, there was one absent from our midst. It was not caused by his inability to get away from Boston, it was not caused by indifference, it was not caused by sickness; but the Commander-in-Chief was absent at that meeting, much to the regret of the members. But at the same time there was pleasure to us in the knowledge that the Commander-in-Chief was absent in the defense of the flag of our country. [Applause.] He was a soldier in the army of the United States, a Major in the gallant Sixth Massachusetts Regiment — a regiment that holds a name in American history; every boy and girl, everybody familiar with American history, knows all about the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment. We, as members of this Order, are more than proud of the fact that our Commander-in-Chief held the rank of Major in that regiment, and while we were deliberating at that Convention, that our Commander-in-Chief was down in Porto Rico fighting the battles of our country and adding new glory to our flag. We determined at that Encampment that a badge should be provided for those of our members who were veterans of that war. Those badges have been prepared and are here for presentation. And in behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief I have the pleasure and distinguished honor of presenting to Past Commander-in-Chief Charles K. Darling the badge numbered *one*. [Applause.] All of them are numbered consecutively from *one* up. This is number *one* badge and the Commandery-in-Chief thought it very appropriate that Past Commander-in-Chief Darling should have number *one*. I have been selected, and feel it a great honor and pleasure, to pin upon Past Commander-in-Chief Darling's breast this number one war-service medal. [Applause.] Brother Darling, I present this medal in behalf of the Commandery. I wish I was able to talk, but I cannot, my voice is broken; but "Our Darling" can talk, he is able to talk. I will not introduce him, for he does not need an introduction to Sons of Veterans; they know him from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from Maine to Mexico. [Applause.]

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF DARLING'S RESPONSE.

Past Commander-in-Chief Darling: Commander-in-Chief and brothers of this Encampment: The pinning of this badge upon my breast, the second badge that I have received from this Commandery, means more than I can say to you. It means that when two years ago I was absent from your Commandery meeting at Omaha, you did not blame me for not being present. I want to assure you that every member of this Order who served in the Spanish-American War will wear this little piece of bronze, in my opinion, with more pride and with more pleasure than any decoration which he may receive from any

other source on earth, because it means that those of us who through all these years have been learning the lessons of patriotism from this Order, which is nearest and dearest to our hearts, received from that Order a recognition that when the time came, that we put ourselves into the service; and I speak possibly in behalf of others who, like myself, may receive this decoration, when I say that we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the beautiful sentiment which has led you to adopt it, and that we will wear it with pride and with pleasure as long as we live. [Applause.]

SERVICE BADGE PRESENTED TO SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SORTOR.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Commander, while we had a Commander-in-Chief in the service, we had a Senior Vice-Commander, or a brother who became Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, likewise in his country's service. While the brother has escaped through our fingers in his great devotion to the matter which occupied our attention so closely yesterday, and is not here, an occasion will arise and there will be presented medal number *two* to our retiring Senior Vice-Commander, A. L. Sortor. [Applause.]

PRESENTATION OF SERVICE BADGE TO A. B. SPINK.

T. A. Barton of Rhode Island: Commander, in the name of Rhode Island Division, I arise to ask a privilege from you. I would like, in the name of Rhode Island Division, the privilege of addressing a few words to Past Commander Spink of that Division. [Applause.]

[Commander Spink was escorted to the platform.]

Colonel, I think you will remember that Rhode Island was well represented in the Spanish-American war by a number of her membership, one company composed almost wholly of Sons of Veterans. We had Past Division Commander Abbott commanding the First Regiment Volunteers, U.S.A.; also yourself as Lieutenant of a company. Rhode Island has been fortunate in securing one of these war-service badges, and, sir, in the name of your brothers of the Rhode Island Division, without further words, because words are not necessary; — you are too well known to each individual here for any words to be spoken, — but in the name of Rhode Island Division here present, as well as those absent, I have the proud pleasure of asking you, sir, to accept badge number *three*. [Applause.] Commander-in-Chief and gentlemen, from the bottom of my heart and in the name of the Rhode Island Division, I thank you for your courtesy in allowing me the privilege of presenting this badge.

RESPONSE OF PAST COMMANDER A. B. SPINK.

A. B. Spink of Rhode Island: Commander, Colonel Barton, I desire at this time, through you, to thank my associates, whom I have associated with for many years and received many courtesies from; and I assure you, I can only repeat the words of Past Commander-in-Chief Darling and say, I thank you, one and all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

G. B. Abbott of Illinois: Commander, if there is nothing else that we can legally do, I wish to make the last motion, which is customary — that is, that the minutes of the Encampment be approved without reading.

The motion was seconded. The motion was agreed to.

The Commander-in-Chief: If there is no other business we will proceed to close.

The Encampment was closed in due form.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Oct. 8, 1900.

The foregoing is a true and correct record and report of the Proceedings of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., held in the City Hall, Syracuse, N.Y., Sept. 11, 12 and 13, A.D. 1900, as reported by Will C. Schneider, Official Stenographer.

Attest:
W. E. BALDWIN,
Past Adjutant-General.

A. W. JONES,
Past Commander-in-Chief.

RECORD OF ROLL CALLS.

Nineteenth Annual Encampment

OF THE

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, S.V., U.S A.

The following shows those members of the Encampment answering roll calls.

P, present; A, accredited.

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF OFFICERS.	1	2	3
Commander-in-Chief, A. W. Jones	P	P	P
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, A. L Sortor, Jr	P	P	P
Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Walter L. Raynes	A	A	A
Adjutant-General, W. E. Baldwin	P	P	P
Quartermaster-General, Fred E. Bolton	P	P	P
Inspector-General. Alfred G. Loyd	A	A	A
Judge Advocate-General, F. T. F. Johnson	P	P	P
Surgeon-General, C. W. Staples	P	P	P
Chaplain-in-Chief, John E. Zeiter	P	P	P
Council-in-Chief, G. B. Abbott	P	P	P
Council-in-Chief, W. J. Patton	P	P	P
Council-in-Chief, George Addington	P	P	P
PAST COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF.			
Charles F. Griffin	P	A	P
Bartow S. Weeks	P	P	A
Joseph B Maccabe	P	P	P
William E. Bundy	P	P	P
James Lewis Rake	P	P	P
Charles K. Darling	P	P	P
Frank L. Shepard	P	P	P
R. M. J. Reed	P	A	P
CONSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS.			
Charles A. Bookwalter	P	P	P
Isaac Cutter	P	P	P
E. C. Parkinson	P	P	P
ALABAMA AND TENNESSEE.			
Past Commander, L. W. Friedman	P	P	P
Substitute Delegates, John Minnix	P	P	P
Substitute Delegates, John Deerfield	P	P	P
CALIFORNIA.			
Delegate-at-Large, Wm. L. Barnum	P	P	P

	1	2	3
CONNECTICUT.			
Commander, Lewis S. Chapman	P	P	P
Past Commanders, F. S. Valentine	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Geo E. Cox	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Leon L. Hall	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, H. J. Bissell	P	P	P
Delegate, Allen T. Pratt	P	P	P
ILLINOIS.			
Commander, W. E. Hull	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Wm. G. Dustin	P	P	P
Past Commanders, John R. Neeley	P	A	P
Past Commanders, Wm. T. Church	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Will C. Schneider	P	P	P
Substitute Delegate-at-Large, W. L. Eckvall	P	P	P
Delegate, K. B. Czarnecki	P	P	P
Substitute Delegates, J. F Lonecker	P	P	P
Substitute Delegates, Sherman W. Naples	P	P	P
INDIANA.			
Past Commanders, Geo. C. Harvey	P	P	A
Past Commanders, Newton J McGuire	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Frank Martin	P	P	P
Past Commanders, R. S. Thompson	P	P	P
Past Commanders, H. O. P. Kline	P	A	P
Substitute Delegate-at-Large, R J. Bosworth	P	A	P
Delegate, Geo. W. Krietenstein	P	P	P
Substitute Delegate, S. C Tipton	P	P	P
IOWA.			
Commander, Guy R. Carson	P	P	P
Past Commanders, James D. Rowen	P	P	P
Past Commanders, L. A. Dilley	P	P	P
Past Commanders, H. M. Hanson	P	P	P
Past Commanders, E. E. Hawkes	P	P	P
Past Commanders, John H Pickett	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Al. T. Wilson	P	P	P
Past Commanders, W. W. Bisby	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Will A. Brown	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, Frank T. Jackson	P	P	P
Delegate, James E. Blythe	P	P	P
Delegate, Harry J. Green	P	P	P
KANSAS.			
Delegate, M. R. Weyemeth	P	P	P
MAINE.			
Commander, E. N. Courson	P	P	P
Past Commander, A. M. Soule	P	A	P
MARYLAND.			
Commander, D M. Rittenhouse	P	P	P
Past Commanders, E. R Campbell	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Edw. K. DePuy	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Geo. S. Whitmore	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, Edgar Allen, Jr	P	P	P
Delegate, Charles S. Davis	P	A	P

	1	2	3
MICHIGAN.			
Commander, F. E. Munger	P	P	P
Past Commanders, H. Earl Cowdin	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Cregton J. Post	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, A. B. Coffinbury	P	P	P
MASSACHUSETTS.			
Commander, Fred E. Warner	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Harry D. Sisson	P	A	P
Past Commanders, Leonard C. Couch	P	A	P
Substitute Delegate-at-Large, J. Emery Coulter	P	P	P
Delegates, A. E. Leighton	P	P	P
Delegates, Thos J. Hanon	P	P	P
Delegates, F. C. Noyes	P	A	P
Delegates, F L. Kirchgassner	P	P	P
Delegates, Geo. W. Braxton	P	P	P
Substitute Delegates, Benj. F. Cook	P	P	P
Substitute Delegates, Franklin J. Donohue	P	P	P
MINNESOTA.			
Commander, C. M. Rawitzer	P	P	P
Past Commander, A. O. Allen	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, E. O Merriman	P	P	P
Delegate, J. P. Lyons	P	P	P
NEBRASKA.			
Commander, Chas. C. Stull	P	P	P
Past Commanders, F. A. Agnew	P	P	P
Past Commanders, A. H. Rawitzer	P	P	P
Past Commanders, J. Howard Heine	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, I. E. Young	P	P	P
Delegate, S. M. True	P	P	P
NEW HAMPSHIRE.			
Commander, Wm. R Blake	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, W. H Price	P	A	P
Delegate, Arthur L. Ordway	P	P	F
NEW JERSEY.			
Commander, Robt. J. Van Houten	P	A	P
Past Commanders, Geo W Pollitt	P	P	P
Past Commanders, James B. Adams	P	A	P
Past Commanders, James B Matthews	P	P	P
Substitute Delegate, Wilbur Van Houten	P	A	P
NEW YORK.			
Commander, Charles H E. Moran	P	A	P
Past Commanders, M. J. Downing	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Edw. W. Hatch	P	A	P
Past Commanders, W H Wyker	P	A	P
Past Commanders, J. C Sawyer	A	A	P
Past Commanders, Adolph Hœfling	A	A	P
Past Commanders, L J Macy	P	P	P
Past Commanders, A. G. Courtney	P	P	P
Past Commanders, John M. Diven	P	A	P
Past Commanders, E. W. Estes	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Ralph Sheldon	P	A	P
Delegate-at-Large, Jas. W. Walker	P	P	P
Delegates, John V. B Clarkson	P	A	P
Delegates, Albert Sievers	P	A	P
Delegates, Wm D Spear	P	A	P
Delegates, Frank K. Maples	P	A	P
Delegates, H H. Parker	P	P	P
Delegates, Wm. C. Halpin	P	A	A
Alternate Delegate, Thos F Maxwell	A	P	P

OHIO.	1	2	3
Commander, A. W. Hendrix	P	P	P
Past Commanders, F. W. Myers	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Dan S. Gardner	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Don C. Cable	P	P	P
Past Commanders, E. H. Archer	P	P	P
Delegate, J. Edward Orr	P	P	P
PENNSYLVANIA.			
Commander, S. W. McCurdy	P	P	P
Past Commanders, E. W. Alexander	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Wm. H. Smith	P	P	P
Past Commanders, H. H. Hammer	P	P	P
Past Commanders, C J. Miller	P	P	A
Past Commanders, Wm B. McNulty	P	A	P
Past Commanders, Chas. E. Diefenderfer	P	P	P
Past Commanders, James W. Tawney	P	A	P
Past Commanders, Wildun Scott	P	A	P
Past Commanders, A S. Moulthrop	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Sam'l S Horn	P	P	P
Substitute Delegate-at-Large, William D. Orr	P	A	P
Delegates, Walter R. Ross	P	A	P
Delegates, W. G. Rolling	P	P	P
Delegates, W. R. Willhide	P	P	P
Delegates, F. A. McKelvey	P	P	P
Delegates, L. C. Brown	P	P	P
Delegates, J. W. Tittle	P	P	P
Delegates, S C Steuber	P	P	P
Delegates, C Day Rudy	P	P	P
Delegates, W. E. Himes	P	P	P
Alternate Delegates, E A. Shoop	P	P	P
Alternate Delegates, L. H. Stedge	P	P	P
Substitute Delegates, Ben F. Hollenbach	P	P	P
Substitute Delegates, F H. Hawkins	P	A	P
Substitute Delegates, John L. Salem	P	P	P
RHODE ISLAND.			
Commander, Frank J Clinton	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Theo A. Barton	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Arthur B. Spink	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Herbert S. Thompson	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Fred E Carpenter	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, H. C Dana	P	P	P
Delegate, H. D Gifford	P	P	P
SOUTH DAKOTA.			
Past Commanders, R. J. Courtney	P	P	P
Past Commanders, Z C. Green	P	P	P
Past Commanders, W. A. Morris	P	P	P
Delegate, H. C. Packard	P	P	P
WISCONSIN.			
Commander, J. W. T Ames	P	P	P
Delegate-at-Large, Martin Grassie	P	A	P
Delegate, F. H B. McDowell	P	P	P

INDEX.

Page

Abbott, G. B., presents jewel to Commander-in-Chief 159
Vote of thanks to 161
Adams, James B , elected member of Council-in-Chief 157
Adjournment 164
Adjutant-General, report of 37
Alexander, Edgar W., elected Commander-in-Chief 152
Address of 152
Barton, T. A., presentation speech of 163
Blake, W. R., appointed Acting Inspector-General 6
Byrnes, John, concerning tablet to 161
Cable, Don C., elected member of Council-in-Chief 157
Chaplain-in-Chief, report of 95
Appointment of 161
Circular Letters 62
Commander-in-Chief, report of 9
Election of 152
Committee on C., R. & R :
Appointment of 8
Report of 131
Committee on Credentials :
Appointment of 7
Reports of 7, 104, 113, 120, 128
Committee on Fraternal Relations, report of 102
Committee on Press, appointment of 9
Committee on Resolutions :
Appointment of 8
Report of 141
Committee on Ritual :
Appointment of 8
Report of 131
Appointment of (special) 158
Committee on Officers' Reports :
Appointment of 9
Report of 109, 112, 140

Communications from Page
Congdon, W R. 156
Diefenderfer, H. F 156
Favor, Geo. C. 108
Hines, John R. 108
Lœbenstein, R. 107
Mason, Orray T. 107
Mohr, Mrs. Ada G. 108
Moore, Harry T. 107
Pond, N. P. 111
Russell, W. H. 158
Sweetland, T. M. 156

Council-in-Chief, report of 112
Supplemental report of 137
Election of 157

Court-Martial 31

Darling, Charles K., acceptance of portrait Commander-in-Chief in behalf of Commandery 154
War-Service Cross presented to 162
Response of 162

Davis, Charles S., elected Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 155

Decisions;
Camp By-Laws providing for election of Camp Council for terms of more than one year invalid 25
Captain cannot be deprived of rank because of failure of Division records to show that he was installed and commissioned 29
Division Commander failing to enforce or wilfully violating By-Laws liable to court-martial 26
Fee cannot be collected for issuance of transfer card 30
Honorable discharge may be granted on verbal request 22
Member of a committee appointed against his wish cannot be fined for not serving 22
Member cannot hold two commissioned offices 23
Member of disbanded Camp issued transfer card entitled to past honors 33
Member nor claimants of one ineligible not entitled to benefits . . . 34
Name of person illegally mustered should be erased from rolls . . . 34
Office cannot be declared vacant for non-payment of improper fine . . 24
Officer next in rank to command in absence of superior 35
Past officer severing connection with Order not entitled to wear past officer's badge upon re-entry therein 32
Person eligible residing in foreign country may be mustered 26
Son of one engaged in guerilla warfare against United States ineligible 28
Son of one serving in U.S. Revenue service ineligible 32

Decoration, new buttonhole, adopted 111

Durston, J. Frank, appointed Acting Inspector-General 6

Elections: Page
Commander-in-Chief 152
Council-in-Chief 157
Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 155
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 155
Encampment, concerning holding same with G A.R. 141
Grand Army of the Republic, committee to confer with appointed . . . 106
General Orders 45
Hammer, H. H., appointed Adjutant-General 161
Howard, William, concerning 104
Committee to consider case of appointed 105
Report of committee 128
Inspector-General, appointment of Acting 6
Report of 73
Jackson, Frank D., address of 4
Jones, A. W.:
Portrait of, presented 154
Jewel presented to 159
Response of 159
Judge Advocate-General, report of 100
Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief:
Appointment of Acting 6
Election of 155
Ladies' Aid Society:
Committee on greeting to 105
Greeting from 137
Little, C. H., appointed Judge Advocate-General 161
Maccabe, J. B., remarks of, concerning buttonhole decoration 109
McCarthy, M. L., address of 3
Marks, George W., presentation of floral piece from 128
Mason City, Ia., selected as location of National Memorial University (Military College) 127
Minutes, approval of 164
National Military College (Memorial University):
Report of Committee 113
Proposition of Maryland Division 121
Vote to locate at Mason City, Ia. 127
Board of Regents elected 131
Nominations:
Adams, James B , for member of the Council-in-Chief 157
Alexander, Edgar W., for Commander-in-Chief 152
Cable, Don C., for member of the Council-in-Chief 157
Davis, Charles S., for Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 155
Post, C. J., for member of the Council-in-Chief 157

Nominations — *Continued:* Page
Providence, R.I., for place of holding next Encampment 149
Rawitzer, A. H., for Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 154
Post, C J., elected member of Council-in-Chief 157
Presentations:
Portrait of Commander-in-Chief Jones 154
Jewel to Commander-in-Chief 159
War-Service Crosses 162, 163
Providence, R.I , selected for place of holding next Encampment . . . 151
Quartermaster-General, report of 68
Rawitzer, A. H., Elected Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief 155
Reed, R. M. J., Concerning jewel presented to 160
Remarks of 161
Presentation speech of 162
Resolutions:
Relative to inspections 143
Concerning blank forms 141
Holding Encampments with G.A.R. 141
Concerning Woman's Relief Corps 143
Concerning Ladies' Aid Society 143
Concerning official organ, *The Banner* 144
Concerning Grand Army of the Republic 144
Concerning Syracuse, N Y 144
Concerning R. E. Morton 144
Concerning Fremont Tietze 148
Sawyer, J. C., concerning 144
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief:
Report of 36
Election of 155
Statistical tables 40
Sortor, A. L., Jr , War-Service Cross presented to 163
Special Orders 59
Spink, A. B., War-Service Cross presented to 163
Response of 163
Surgeon-General, report of 94
Tietze, Fremont, past rank restored to 148
Thompson, R. S , appointed Chaplain-in-Chief 161
War-Service Cross, concerning 149
Presentations of 162, 163
Woman's Relief Corps, greeting from 135

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